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# A Great-Grandmother and her People

BY

PERCY E. AND CALVIN GOODRICH



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## INTRODUCTION

This account deals first with a wisp of a woman of great heart, native to Virginia and in her forty-fourth year an emigrant to Indiana. Her story is far from being as full as we would have liked to make it, the most of it having passed into forgetfulness. This, no doubt, would be true of any other human creature whose history has survived almost wholly in family memory, and that memory grown dim in the passage of time. With the narrative goes that of her husband, her husband's people so far as they could be traced, and her children. An attempt has been made to supply clear description of conditions under which life was lived in the old South and in Indiana of the early Nineteenth Century. In every instance of assumption the fact that it is an assumption has been specified. So a way is left open by which anyone may file demurrer if so he wish. We have done some debunking of legends and fantasies, not too rudely we hope. The recital (with lapses therefrom) leaves off with the children of our great-grandmother, since a line must be drawn somewhere. To go much beyond them is to enter among a press of these children's children and these other children's children. For the generations march on relentlessly, and every little while there is a new nursling and another given name.

As it pleases them, members of the family may write in names upon the blank pages at the end of this book.







Rebecca Pearse Goodrich. A reproduction of a photograph taken in the 1860's.



# A Great-Grandmother And Her People

## I

Rebecca, eldest daughter of Baldwin and Rebecca Pearse, was born in Petersburg, Virginia, on August 31, 1787, and that was while the feeble republic was still struggling toward unity. The Pearses were connected by blood with the Carys, Randolphs and Leighs whose names stand out with prominence in the chronicles of Virginia, colony and state. Too much can be made of such bonds. In a country of fairly narrow confines, and in its first centuries Virginia was that; blessed with a fecund race and the race restricted as to its movements—in such a situation every family, given time, becomes related to every other family. In the current news is report of the death of a woman at the age of one hundred and one. She had five children, fifty-eight grandchildren, 183 great-grandchildren and more than sixty great-great-grandchildren. By marriage her descendants may have acquired connection with half the folk of her county. The family relationships of Virginia by 1787, could we see them as a whole, might well have resembled an inextricable entanglement. Benjamin Franklin made the statement in 1751 that a population of a million had been produced in British America from only 80,000 settlers.

The year before the birth of Rebecca Pearse, Petersburg was visited by Robert Hunter, Jr., a young English traveler. Hunter followed the custom of journeying Britons in keeping a diary. "The town," he said of Petersburg, is "built in





the middle of a swamp between two hills. In the old town . . . they say a child was never raised to the age of manhood." The unhealthfulness probably was not peculiar to Petersburg, but common to most of the communities of the period. "There are two principal streets, consisting entirely of stores," Hunter continued. "The houses are irregular and all built of wood. If a fire was to catch in one of them the whole town would be destroyed . . . The principal business here is in the tobacco way. They receive 25,000 hogsheads annually. Petersburg is the first place in America in that line. The warehouses where they prize and inspect the tobacco are large and numerous. There is a kind of creek over which is built a bridge that separates Petersburg from Blanford. This last is a pleasant situation upon an eminence that commands a most pleasing prospect . . . Mr. Peabody . . . informed me that with paying so much attention to the planting of tobacco they entirely destroyed all their land and rendered it useless for wheat, rye, barley, oats, etc. Those who cleared four shillings per bushel for wheat thought themselves very well off . . ."

Baldwin Pearse, Rebecca's father, was a lawyer, and served for a long or a short time as judge in one of the local courts. At about the turn of the Nineteenth Century, John Baldwin Goodrich came down from Amberst County to study law under Baldwin Pearse. The inference is fair from the repetition of the name Baldwin that a family relationship existed. The Baldwin family was long resident to Tidewater, Virginia. It had a taste for naming sons John just as we will find that the Goodriches of Isle of Wight County did. Here are notes about Baldwins we have gleaned from public records:

1653—John Baldwin accepted as a member of the General Assembly.

1687—Land at Jamestown that belonged to John Baldwin, "gent.," is sold.



1699—In the will of Anna Macon, filed in St. Botolph Parish, Aldgate, London, twenty shillings are left for the purchase of gloves for John Baldwin and his wife of Virginia; apparently twenty shillings for each of them.

1758—Five pounds and six shillings are voted John Baldwin of Amelia County for services as a militiaman. This was during the French and Indian War. Amelia County is in the basin of the James River southwest of Richmond.

1760—John Baldwin, Amelia County, stands sponsor for the marriage of David and Abigail Roberts.

Revolutionary period—John Baldwin is captain of Virginian forces, organization not named.

The grandmother of our Rebecca Pearse Goodrich was Elizabeth Cary, the grandfather Benjamin Watkins. The first of the Carys in Virginia was Colonel Miles Cary, born in Bristol, England, in 1620. He became a justice of the peace in Warwick County, which is immediately below James City County. He was concerned with the building of a fort at Norfolk. Death was in 1667. Benjamin Watkins, seemingly the first of his line in America, is recorded as coming from Wales in 1687, to have had sons Thomas and Edward. A descendant was Henry Clay, born 1777. Of the Benjamin Watkins, grandsire of Rebecca Pearse Goodrich, we find this note: "First clerk of Chesterfield County, Va., holding office to time of his death. Also surveyor, and laid out town of Manchester. Judge F---- described him as a gentleman, skilled in office and of undoubted integrity. He represented county Chesterfield in Colonial Assemblies. Was a member of convention of 1776. Jealous supporter of rights of colonies. Corresponded with Sam'l. Adams, John Hancock and other leading patriots of the day." The Seldon of Carey Seldon Goodrich's name came from Rebecca Seldon, grandmother of his mother, and wife of Thomas Watkins.

We have spoken of the Virginia family intricacies. Well, the mother of John Baldwin Goodrich was an Amy Wat-







kins. We are led to believe, though lacking explicit evidence of it, that a blood relationship existed, near or remote, between Rebecca Pearse and the John Goodrich she married.

The distance overland between Amherst of Amherst County and Petersburg is about a hundred miles. Traveling in or about 1800 was often a circuitous affair. It is quite probable that John Baldwin Goodrich went by road to Lynchburg, then down the James to Richmond, which was within easy touch of Petersburg both by land and water. It is perhaps as probable that the journey was by way of Charlottesville to the northeast of Amherst, Charlottesville was a mercantile center, and must have been served by stage lines and trains of wagon freighters—its position as the seat of the University of Virginia not developing until 1819. Or—if you can still endure the surmising—John Goodrich's trip could have been made by horseback, as common a means of travel as by coach. It is unlikely that Petersburg had changed appreciably between 1786, when Robert Hunter, Jr., was there, and the date of John's arrival. As for long after Virginia continued to devote its agriculture extremely to tobacco, the Petersburg market for it very likely remained a big one even if rivals came into existence.

As has been said, our John Baldwin's purpose in Petersburg was to study law under Baldwin Pearse. Many years before this arrangement was made, law was taught at William and Mary's College in Williamsburg, Thomas Jefferson being the most notable example of that schooling. But the ordinary aspirant for the bar attached himself to some established lawyer, exactly as in England. He read that lawyer's books. He received as a matter of course much more practical instruction than guidance in the philosophy of the law. He ran errands that taught familiarity with the practices of public offices, made out papers, probably collected fees, and sat by his preceptor in courtrooms. Unquestionably, he gave much attention to oratory, a necessity





then much more than now. In many instances, a premium was paid for the tuition. We can imagine that it was waived in the case of John Goodrich since he was, it has to be believed, related to his tutor possibly both by blood and marriage. It is not too much to suspect that, for the same reason, he lived at the Pearse house. The senior author has gone to much pains to learn the date of admission to the bar, entirely in vain. Today we would call the early formality a perfunctory affair. In instances, it may have required no more than the instructor's word that his student was prepared. Not a great while before John Goodrich went to Petersburg, Patrick Henry had been admitted after only six weeks of book-reading.

Notes upon his readings in Blackstone were made by Goodrich, doubtless at Petersburg, and they have been preserved. The booklet containing them measures six inches long by four wide. The writing is clear, easy to read, and in an ink which has turned brown with age. If done with a quill, as in all probability it was, the quill had been sharpened to a fine point. Book binding is rough, gray paper. Leaves are sewn together. The notes themselves appear to have been intended as an index to three volumes of Blackstone. They may be illustrated by these examples selected at random:

"34th What is meant by Franchises? See page 16. Ib."

"71th What is priveleged villenage? 98."

"Ch: 31th of Titles by Bankruptcy."

"6th. By how many methods may a civil injury be redressed by the act of the party injured? Ib."

The note book passed from John Baldwin Goodrich to his son George Whitfield Goodrich, thence to DeWitt Clinton Goodrich, Calvin Goodrich, Percy E. Goodrich, and is now in the possession of Pierre F. Goodrich, representing the fourth generation from the Petersburg student of Blackstone.

The marriage of Rebecca Pearse and John Baldwin Good-



rich took place in Petersburg on October 6, 1802. From Aunt Eliza Beverly has come down the statement that the two first met at a party and there fell in love. This scarcely seems to agree with the fact that Goodrich was the student of Rebecca's father, in some measure very likely his employee. Rebecca was just a little past her fifteenth birthday; John Baldwin was hardly more than twenty years old.

We come now to some confusion of statements and dates. We have it in family story that the couple did not undertake housekeeping in Petersburg, but almost immediately set out for a new home in Christiansburg, Montgomery County, southwestern Virginia. At the same time, the arrival there is given as 1805, that is three years after the marriage. Only if we could learn the place of birth of the first child, Thomas Watkins, August 8, 1803, could the question be resolved. This we have been unable to learn. We will have to be satisfied with the fact that go to Christiansburg they did.

Roads out of the part of Virginia in which Petersburg lay met a main road at Roanoke coming through the great valley in the upper part of which flowed the Shenandoah River. The highway from Roanoke was the path to Tennessee and over the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky. Upon it poured a flood of emigrants who settled Kentucky, much of southern Ohio, parts of Indiana and Illinois, and in successive generations peopled Missouri and scattered into the regions bordering on the Rocky Mountains. It was a path as well by which Virginians reached Texas and mingled the taking up of mighty tracts of land with fighting Indians and Mexicans and the setting up of a republic of their own. If, say, a representative to congress from Louisiana did not go to Washington by sea or up the Mississippi and Ohio to Wheeling or Pittsburgh, and thence to the capital, he most surely used this trail. Christiansburg was upon it, cheek by jowl. So the village escaped much of the isolation which was a shadow upon the average new community.





As distances go with us now, Christiansburg is hardly a full day's drive from Petersburg. But in 1805, or thereabouts, the way was rough and perilous, and we can scarcely think of the journey as a pleasant one for two young people undertaking to establish a permanent home. Christiansburg is in the census of 1840 as having four hundred inhabitants, four stores, a Presbyterian and a Methodist church. But it might well have been a shade larger in 1805 when it was a place for the exchange of stage coach horses and for the rest of freighters and the repair of their wagons. If the town was like other villages on similar migration routes, the prosperous members of the community, putting land dealers aside, were tavernkeepers and smiths. Blacksmiths mended vehicles, shod horses and oxen, replaced lost metal equipment, and in instances fabricated pots and pans for emigrants, acting also as gunsmiths. There is record of them even tinkering with watches. The founding date of Christiansburg is 1792, which means that settlement began there then, doubtless by a farming pioneer or two. But the town was not plotted until much later. In the early part of 1806, John Baldwin Goodrich was selected as one of the trustees, and the formal plat of the hamlet was executed.

Goodrich was clerk to the trustees. He served as a surveyor. To some extent, he practiced law. A basic employment was teaching school. Also, he bought and sold land, a business that about every third man on American frontiers seems to have dabbled in. It made both rich men and bankrupts.

Goodrich as clerk to the trustees of Christiansburg was directed on May 31, 1806, to set up advertisement "at all public houses and stores" of the community prohibiting the removal of "any timber, stone or other material" from city property. At the same meeting it was resolved that Goodrich was entitled to a deed for lot 18 on the south side of Main Street. A sale of two lots "formerly improved by





John B. Goodrich" was set aside as illegal. He was directed to give bond for "whatever may be the average prices of lots 1 and 3." In a record of proceedings undated it is shown that he had bought two city lots, possibly the above, purchased a third lot of James Bratton, and to be the owner of a fourth. As late as August 29, 1822, some time after removal to Blacksburg, he was spoken of by the Christiansburg trustees as "our clerk and surveyor." A duty assigned him on that day was to draw up a deed of conveyance from the county court to the trustees. An allowance was made him of three dollars a day for eight days service. The same pay was made in July, 1823, and April, 1825, for surveying certain city-owned lots. In August of this latter year, he received eleven dollars "for writing 11 deeds for the board." On October 6, 1824, he was ordered to turn over the books and papers of the board to William Wade, and under date of May 3, no year given, was commanded to deposit the "books of resolutions" with Joseph King "during such time as John B. Goodrich continues out of Town." In both instances, the resolutions were signed by Goodrich as clerk. The exact nature of his employment in Christiansburg after removal to Blacksburg is not clear. Officially, he may have remained a citizen of the county seat. He may have had a contract with the trustees of the village by which he continued in office undisturbed. We suspect that the whole matter hinged upon the scarcity of educated men in the back country, or the rarity of men who knew the practicabilities of surveying and meeting the requirements of the law. Versatility seems to have been Goodrich's chief talent.

Mrs. Geary who examined the Montgomery County records for the senior author found that all the items of one page dealing with real estate transfers in the 1820's were in the name of John Baldwin Goodrich except two. We are able to recite the following transactions of his without being certain that they are complete:



June 24, 1805—Conveys house and lot occupied by the family to Charles Taylor to secure payment of note for \$120.

May 31, 1806—Buys lot in Christiansburg of four individuals and two trustees.

June 27, 1807—Sells one-half acre lot "now occupied by Nicholas Dodson" to John Glenn for \$700.

April 13, 1810—Conveys three negroes and other personal property to secure "title to a tract of land which has hitherto been sold to John Glenn on Elliott's Creek."

April 14, 1812—Buys lot in Christiansburg from Samuel Denman "of the City of Philadelphia." This may be the lot, elsewhere mentioned, "with the buildings thereon," to which Goodrich took possession in 1812.

May 23, 1815—Transfers fifty-six acres on Crab Creek to Jesse and William Pepper.

May 5, 1818—Transfers lot 10 in Christiansburg to Lindsey C. Crow.

February 16, 1821—Transfers fifty-six acres "more or less" of Montgomery County land to George Surface. In this same year he buys something more than 1100 acres "adjoining lands owned by John Bell."

June 29, 1821—Buys 1134 acres on Elliott's Creek of the widow of David Collins.

March 5, 1822—Sells lot 42, Blacksburg, to Henry Linkous.

July 2, 1822—Transfers 250 acres to William B. Charlton.

August 21, 1823—Buys 2219 acres on Brush Mountain from Ebenezer Melvin, Jr.

1823—month and day unknown—Buys 2081 acres on Tom's Creek. A statement by Governor James P. Goodrich is that these lands are among the "richest coal lands in Virginia." It was assumed because of this comment that the property was that in the far corner of Virginia, the station for which is Tom's Creek. From an answer to an inquiry made of Mr. R. L. Miller, mayor of Christiansburg, we are led to believe that the Tom's Creek of Goodrich's purchase is the one on the northern side of Montgomery County, Virginia, and so not far from Blacksburg. It happens to be underlaid with coal. In the settlement of John Baldwin Goodrich's estate, Edmund, his son, conveyed the acreage to Henry Dibble for seventy-five dollars.





July, 1828—Conveys 25 acres "adjoining the lands of John Black on the road leading from Blacksburg" to secure "Thomas & Hoge payment of note for \$302.10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ."

August 1, 1828—Conveys 150 acres southeast of Christiansburg to secure note to Isaac Chapman for \$105.50.

August 1, 1828—"Conveys lot on which he lives, and certain personal property, to secure" note to William Argabright for \$64.40.

The record of legal business that John Baldwin Goodrich performed is meager, and it is probable that except for drawing up land deeds, filing replevins and administering estates there was very little custom for any lawyer. The average lawyer in Virginia, as well as one in the middle west, entered upon his career with a yearning eye for public office. Hence the high interest in oratory. We assume that in addition to acting as clerk to the Christiansburg trustees, doing surveying at so much per day, speculating in land and picking up a morsel of law business now and then, John Goodrich devoted his time to teaching school if, in fact, this was not counted his main occupation, the other duties side issues.

Whether the teaching he carried on in Christiansburg was private or public is not certain, but it is likely that the former was the case. Early in the Revolution, Thomas Jefferson as a member of the Virginia general assembly introduced a bill for popular education in order, he said, that citizens would learn "to understand their rights, to maintain them, and to exercise with intelligence their parts in self-government." These were fine words, but they were not enthusiastically endorsed. Public schools involved taxes, and taxes were particularly hateful. So if the citizen wished his children taught the common rudiments of education, he usually had to pay for it directly out of his pocket.

There exist two manuscript copies of arithmetics that John Baldwin Goodrich wrote, the second an extension of the other. The first has the title "John B. Goodrich's Book,





1813." The text is on yellowed, unruled paper,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 8. It starts with a technical explanation of decimal fractions. In giving examples, the author showed a preference for intricacy to simplicity. There are twenty pages of these, with page 21 unfilled but with the heading, "Single Rule of Three in Decimal Fractions." Five pages of applications follow. An illustrative example is:

"A gentleman ordered his Estate to be divided among his daughters A B C & D which was valued to £7618, 19 s 6 d in such proportion that A should have  $\frac{1}{2}$  B  $\frac{1}{3}$  C  $\frac{1}{4}$  and D 1-5 without prejudice of the one to the other. I demand each Daughters part."

Subjects dealt with are square root, cube root, gauging and "Mensuration, with Practical Questions thereof." A multiplication table is handsomely drawn and filled in. The pupil, for exercise, is asked to multiply  $246824624 \times 30403205$ . In problems relating to money the English currency system is used on one side of the page, the American system opposite it. Weights and measures provided are Troy, Avoirdupois, Apothecaries, Long, Land, Cloth, Wine and Dry. One is shown the method of multiplying years, months, weeks, days and hours by one another. Some captions of pages which follow are "Compound Division," "Division of Crops," "Reduction," and "Reduction Descending." The manuscript may have been prepared in hope of general publication or may have served in school in the absence of printed arithmetics. We have no way of telling. However useful or not it was in the classroom, the work was seized upon by the Goodrich children to scribble in. Calvin Gibson Goodrich seems to have been the worst offender. The latest of the dates that he or some other penman wrote down is "15 Oct 1839." The family by this time had been eight years in Indiana, and Calvin was nearing his twentieth birthday. An explanation for scribbling at such an age that





we have come upon is that it was a way of trying out newly trimmed quill pens.

On the cover of the arithmetic is written "Blacksburg, Virginia." It might be inferred from this that the work was of the Blacksburg period of residence. In the text is posed this problem:

"A Captain, Lieutenant, Ensign and 7 Men took a prize of £17668, sh.16. The Capt. has 2 Shares, the Lieutenant one and the Ensign  $\frac{1}{2}$  Share, and each man one-fourth Share. I demand each officers part of the prize. Christiansburg, August 24th, 1813."

This makes it certain that the family was still living in Christiansburg when Goodrich undertook his textbook on Mathematics, whatever the writing on the cover suggests to the contrary. Moreover, the penmanship of this line is not that of John Baldwin Goodrich's.

The problem itself is of indirect historical interest, since it was offered in the midst of the War of 1812. At that particular time, American naval vessels were virtually all blockaded in home ports by British fleets. Our few successes at sea were by privateers which preyed on British commerce for the profit there was in it. We may suppose that in September, 1813, the only encouraging news which was reaching Christiansburg was of seizures by privateers, Goodrich in his arithmetic registering this small comfort.

In Court Orders of Montgomery County is the record, dated September 18, 1809: "I do certify that John B. Goodrich produced his commission as Ensign in the 75th Regiment, 19th Brigade, Third Division, and qualified as the law directs. (Signed) J. Bratton." In July of the following year the same kind of certification was made, Goodrich this time as lieutenant. It has been assumed, without considering the dates, that this would prove service in the War of 1812. It does not, of course, so prove. What seems reasonable to us is that the Virginia law required a filing of records in the



case of selection or election to offices in the state militia. The War of 1812 was fought on the sea, the Great Lakes and their margins, and in the lower Mississippi area. It may well be that militiamen of a remote part of Virginia were not called into active service although standing ready to obey such summons, their duties during the war, if any, being as guards against British-inspired Indian raids. Beyond these Court Orders there is no other evidence of military activities on the part of John Baldwin Goodrich.

Mrs. Iva J. Geary, who supplied the information about the military commissions, added that "his son Edmond B. Goodrich was a private." Edmund, son of John Baldwin Goodrich, was born in 1806. He could have been only four years old in 1810, eight years old when the War of 1812 came to an end. Further, Mrs. Geary speaks of a remarriage on Edmond's part in 1836. By that time our Edmund was in Indiana. It appears possible that another family of Goodrichs was in Montgomery County, Virginia, in the period.

Here follow copies of certain papers, together with notes upon others:

"John B. Goodrich in acct. with John Spickard, Blacksburg, June 21, 1827:

2 twists of tobacco—12p	25
1 do do	12½
1 Old Saddle	7.00
1 Twist of Tobacco	12½
5 (illeg.)	62½
1 belly band	62½
1 Horse Collar	1.50
fitting 1 Bridle	1.25

The account was partly paid with three dollars in cash.

The jailor of Montgomery billed the "U. States," in John Baldwin Goodrich's handwriting.

"To Receiving in the said Jail Hugh Holp, a deserter from a detachment of the 12th Regt. U. S. Infantry	\$0.25
"Keeping him 34 days at 34cts.	11.56





"Delivering him from Jail	00.25
	\$12.06

This was undated, as was also this bill of Goodrich to Mr. Lewis (name illeg.).

"To subscriptions for 4 scholars one year	\$40.00
" (illeg.) Stephe, 3 day	1.50
"1 load of timber (later made into rails & put up)	1.25
"4 surveys—\$3.50 ea.	14.
"4 plats—50c ea.	2.
"Pocket instruments	3.50
"4 Transfers—75c ea.	3.00
"2 Deeds—\$1 ea.	-- 2.
"Amt. paid by Dr. J. Bell	20.
"Hawling stone & Wood	1.

In a single line Goodrich, under date only of 1823, billed Nathan Worley for "1 Transfer 1 Tract land Roanoke from George (illeg.) \$00.75."

"Mr. John B. goodridg Sr pleas to pay the Bearer 25 Dollars & in so doing you will oblige yours etc. Mary Bowman April 27th. 1819.

"NB. The above is Polly Bowman's Claim against (illeg.) for this year.

"Daniel Bowman."

In what was an account for surveyor's services, undated, John Baldwin Goodrich calls for payment for surveys, platting, "calculating," making out additional plats and reports, and "Traveling," the whole bill amounting to \$19.78.

On November 22, 1832, Alexander Black acknowledged receipt of records of the board of overseers of the poor, the work of Edmund B. Goodrich. Appended was the statement, also by Alexander Black, that Edmund, as clerk of the board, for four years, "has performed the duties of that office with honour and fidelity & entirely to the satisfaction of myself and I believe to the satisfaction of the rest of the board. I further certify that he has acted as commissioner and deputy commissioner of the Revenues in this county and has given Good satisfaction to all concerned."





## II

Rebecca Pearse Goodrich bore fourteen children, one about every two years. The fact appears to weaken Eliza Beverly's description of her as "always delicate." But perhaps it supports the further statement, also Eliza's, that her mother was "endowed with an energy, will power and tenacity seldom surpassed."

It was a time of large families. A numerous brood was very much a matter of course. Childless families were rare, particularly in the back country. Death of women by childbirth amounted to a commonplace. Infant mortality was high. Yet the nine sons and five daughters that Rebecca Pearse Goodrich bore all grew to maturity. They survived not only the ills of infancy and youth against which there existed no public protective measures, but also the prevalent malaria of the frontier and those epidemics imported by wagon freighters, emigrants and political and business travelers. There was accident either to recover from or to escape by more than ordinary watchfulness. There was a crude medication to ignore, get around or live through, the potion most depended upon being calomel.

Great-grandmother had rare need of the endowment of energy, will-power and tenacity that the daughter Eliza granted her.

The exact date on which the family moved from Christiansburg to Blacksburg is unknown, but we do know that the seventh child, George Whitfield, was born there, and that the year of his birth was 1815. We have seen that even though no longer resident to Christiansburg John Baldwin Goodrich retained his position as clerk and surveyor to the trustees of that town. The list of land conveyances printed in the preceding chapter shows that it was in Blacksburg he carried on his most extensive speculations in acreages. Mention is made of him as one of the trustees of this





village. As "Goodrick" he is included in the enumeration of early postmasters. We may suppose that, too, he shared in the small law practice the little community had need of. But family tradition has it that removal to Blacksburg was for the purpose of continuing with his teaching.

Belief has been that the institution which Goodrich joined was one that later was absorbed by the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. But records of the Institute give no such information, and in fact the Institute is vague as to some details of its beginning. In the period academies, seminaries and colleges were coming into existence like mushrooms, and like mushrooms they passed into nothingness, the most of them. In 1819—we quote from a master's thesis by G. F. Poteet of the University of Virginia, "Secondary Education in Montgomery County, 1766-1936,"—in 1819, a lottery was promoted for an academy at Blacksburg. Thirty thousand dollars were to be raised. The practical business was put in the hands of one Joseph Vannini, of Richmond. Apparently, the lottery was run. But nothing was obtained of Vannini. Whether this was the school with which John Baldwin was connected we have had no way of learning. For all that family legend is positive about the position in Blacksburg being that of schoolmaster it stops with that. As by 1840 Blacksburg had a population of only 250, and so very few children of what we now call public-school age, it seems certain that the seat of learning Goodrich was concerned with drew its attendance from outside, and so is to be rated with the innumerable academies of evanescent character.

History at Blacksburg goes back at least as far as 1755 when it existed under the name of Draper's Meadow Settlement. It was then so deep in the wilderness that it was raided by Indians from the Ohio country. Formal platting was in 1797, and that seemingly was the date of rechristening. Land in the hamlet recorded as amounting to "21 x 99



poles" was bought by Goodrich, and a house erected on the lot, nearly flush with the street, which was a short one just off the main street. It was standing until recent times, but was pulled down by reason of decay. The architecture was the common one of the area, that is, it was of two floors, narrow in depth in proportion to length. Mrs. Geary speaks of the custom of so building dwellings that the front door opened into one of the first-floor rooms, "usually the larger one," and we can suppose the practice to have been followed as regards this house. The area is one of many springs, and hence a chief reason for the selection of home-sites. In the deed to the property it was set down:

"The Spring on the lot commonly called the 'Town Spring' with enclosure 16' square with passage way 6' wide from Water Street to the Spring, is dedicated for the use and benefit of the citizens of said town of Blacksburg. It is understood, however, that the said Goodrich paid for said Spring and this right of user is a donation from him and is made on the express condition that no persons using the Spring shall be allowed to wash themselves or any particle of clothing within the boundry of the said lot, but allowed merely to take water from the spring in clean vessels, and the Trustees of the town promise on their part to use all proper means of protecting the Spring."

On a visit to the spot in 1945 by the authors, the spring was hidden in a tangle of high weeds, and was recognizable as a source of water only by a stream of some current flowing out from the midst of the vegetation. Town rights to the water appear never to have been exercised as Goodrich had in mind they would be—this is to say, continuously and permanently. Community water supply upon the present-day pattern was probably not even dreamed of by inhabitants of southwestern Virginia in the 1820's.

John Baldwin Goodrich died September 4, 1828. If born in 1783, as is probably certain, he was forty-five, or thereabouts, at the time of his death. The family story is that he







was killed by a fall from a horse. There exists a statement on the part of a descendant that he "drank and lost what fortune they had." Allowance must be made for the fact that the words were spoken when drinking, little or much, was held in horror, and could be made to explain any kind of losses from temper to teeth. It is not to be forgotten that John Baldwin Goodrich was a land speculator, in addition to other things, and that in the occupation the business mortality is high. Governor James Putman Goodrich, after examining the county records at Christiansburg, was left in no doubt that his great-grandfather met with failure a little while before his death "as he made various deeds to all his property to trustees with power to convey the same, and the records show that they did convey the property, pay the debts, and turn over \$200 to Rebecca Goodrich, widow . . ." Edmund, the second son, filed an inventory of the estate December 12, 1828. Its value, independent of land, was reckoned at \$208.68 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Among the items of the appraisal were:

1 gin case and contents	\$1.50
1 big spinning wheel and cotton cards	2.50
1-5 interest in a crosscut saw	3.00

The sale of the assets was carried out on February 6, 1829. The gin case brought 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. What was probably the final settlement was the conveyance in 1831 of Rebecca Goodrich's dower interest.

In the first chapter of this work it was shown that on April 13, 1810, John Baldwin Goodrich turned over three negroes and other personal property to secure "title to a tract of land which has hitherto been sold to John Glenn on Elliott's Creek." This is the only information about the ownership of slaves by the family in Montgomery County of which doubt cannot be raised. Eliza Beverly has said that Rebecca Goodrich did have a slave, man or woman not specified, to whom freedom was granted when removal to



Indiana was determined upon. The trouble with this is that few public records of the South were kept more carefully than the buying, selling and emancipation of such chattels. We have met with no such memoranda, leaving out the one above cited, in spite of a vigorous combing of records by several persons.

The family lived on at Blacksburg for three years after the death of John Baldwin Goodrich. It then determined to move to Indiana, the destination to be Fort Wayne or its vicinity where relatives of great-grandmother had settled. We know something of the journey, made in winter, from notes written by Aunt Eliza Beverly late in life, a "Bill of our Expenses in Removeing to the western country" dated December 7, 1831, in Edmund Goodrich's handwriting, and a letter that Edmund sent back to Virginia. These two last items appear in a "Ledger," later to be described. From Miss Mary Deem we have the detail that the family was accompanied as far as Wilmington, Ohio, by other folk. The "Bill" aforementioned sets down particulars in this manner:

"Bill at Colonel Thomases	.50
"Tollage at 1st Tollgate	.50
"Sugar & coffee at store	1.50"

A sufficient number of towns are mentioned in the "Bill" so that the route taken to Indiana can be followed with certainty. We print them in their order, taking the liberty to correct the spelling in two or three instances in which Edmund was going upon sound.

Salt Sulphur (on West Virginia maps as Salt Sulphur Springs)	Raccoon, Ohio (probably the present Vinton)
Union, (of present West Virginia)	Jackson
Greenbrier Bridge	Richmond
Lewisburg	Chillicothe
Gauley Bridge	Wilmington
	Harveysburg
	Waynesville







Shrewsbury

Charleston

Lewiston

Gallipolis, Ohio

"Dellother"

Richmond, Indiana

"Weoning"

Winchester

So the journey was made almost due north into present-day West Virginia, across this state more or less irregularly, over the Ohio River at Gallipolis, northwest in Ohio to a point opposite Richmond, Indiana, and from Richmond into Randolph County. In the family wagon, we learn from Mrs. Beverly, were Edmund and Ellen Bell Goodrich, her aunt Ellen Powell, and Edmund's son, John Baldwin, aged six weeks. We quote directly: "He (that is, Edmund) had in his wagon also all the household furnishings it had been possible to bring. Next came the carryall in which were the mother, Louisa, Jane, Eliza, George and Charles. The other boys, Watkins, Alfred, Calvin and Luther, walked along at the side . . . They had intended settling at Fort Wayne, but an accident to their wagon in the wilds of Randolph County caused a delay, which eventuated in a permanent settlement in this county."

(A dictionary definition of carryall is: "A one-horse four-wheeled covered vehicle." Among Americans in pioneer times, a carryall could have two horses.)

According to tradition, the mother remarked when the wagon broke down that one swamp was as good as another, and the place of the accident would serve to settle upon. She was a woman of decisiveness, and there seems to have been no inclination to argue with her.

Here is a copy of the letter that Edmund wrote to a relative or friend:

"We arrived at our Present place of abode on White River, Randolph County, Ind., on the ---- day of ----- after a long and Tedious journey. We arrived here without any Lives lost or Limbs broke, and that is all we can say. If I was to tell you of the many Difficulties we have encountered



in moving here, extreme bad weather, dangerous Roads in consequence of Ice, you would hardly believe me, and, therefore, I shall say nothing about it. We are all in good health and spirits at Present, and we are well Pleased with the country as far as we have yet seen.

"I have purchased the place on which I reside on White River about half mile from the courthouse of this county, and on white river about ten miles. It is about the size of (the) Roanoke at Rutledge mill. The first purchase I made was eighty acres, with about Twenty-five acres cleared, an excellent Bearing Peach orchard of 75 or so Trees, also between 30 and forty bearing apple Trees, a stable, kitchen, smoke house & a hewed Log cabban—all Built in Cabban Style, for which I was to give \$400. I Paid \$108 in cash and put in my waggon at \$120 and the Little Bay Horse that I Bought from B at \$60, and there was a Back payment of 120 which the man I Purchased of owed on the Land, which I have eight years Credit on.

"I then Purchased 40 acres adjoining the above at \$1.75 per acre, fourth of which I Paid down and have a Ten years Credit on the balance. I know you are ready to say Edmund has been too precipitous in Purchasing, and he has not followed my advise. I always advised him to not settle on credit, and has give Too much for the Land, and has gone in debt, too. For answer To which I Shall say that I Like the situation. It is just about as far from the county seat as I should Like to Live, and as to health I did not think that so small a water course as W R is here could affect the health, and I also knew that from the rising value of Land that I could get clear of it at any Time, and get a small advance on my money. I had Intended at first to enter Land in the woods, but I found that if I did that I should have to purchase grain to subsist on for at least Two years to come, would have made away with all my money and Property. As it is I shall have corn to spare next fall, which always brings cash at a good Price.

"Our Traveling Expenses was very great. We Paid as high as 62½ for corn. The (illegible) and the days being so short and cold the (that?) we could not travel any distance. I would never advise any Person to that wished to love to start at the season of the year that I did. It was so







intensely cold that Kanhawa (river) was froze over, so that we drove over on the ice. We also crossed the Ohio at Galipolis on the ice, so that you see that we paid no ferrage. We have had no certain intelligence of fletcher. We travelled some distance out of our road to get intelligence of him. To an uncle of ours, he informed me, that he had worked in that neighborhood for a month, and had Left there going toward Springfield, and after, he received our Letter enquiring for him that he had made considerable enquiry for him. (He) had heard of his working a month in dayton, O., and had started again westward, and that was all the intelligence he could give of him. For every circumstance and a conversation that I had with him Previous to his Leaving, I would not be surprised at his being at this time on board of some vessel out at sea or in some of the west India Islands.

"I will at some future Period (illegible), when I have seen some what of the Laws, manners and customs (sentence much confused, but apparently referring to a local Mormon communion.) I will give you an account of land I Purchased of a Mormonite, an old Pennsylvanian. Purchased of an other, and mother is about Purchasing of an other. There is a church of about 100 members of that Denomination here. (They have) the Book of Mormon or a new bible which they profess to believe, and (they) believe there is ground (for) all of them in Missouri to build a new Jerusalem in, and they believe they are warned to flee the wrath to come, and go and settle there, and that at a certain Time Christ will come down from heaven and (reside?) with them a thousand years."

Edmund's capitalizing system has been retained, since it is an interesting carry-over from Eighteenth Century custom. Punctuation has been supplied and the letter broken into paragraphs. Otherwise no change has been made. The last part has been difficult to make out because of superimposed scribbling in darker ink—a bit of editing on the part of some child.

The "Ledger" containing the "Bill of Our Expenses" and Edmund's letter is a heavy, thick volume that first was used by a mercantile house in Christiansburg, one that John



Baldwin Goodrich may have had an interest in or for which he did some of the bookkeeping. The earliest entry is under date of November 6, 1807. Currency was still in use in terms of pounds, shillings and pence. The congress of 1785 established the dollar as the monetary unit of the United States, but for a long time people in all the states translated it into the formula with which they were familiar although using American coins and notes. Elderly folk, in fact, were speaking of shillings as recently as the beginning of this century, the shilling to them being just half the English value. Among articles of sale recorded by the Christiansburg merchants were:

Indian blanket	12 sh.	gun lock	13 sh., 6d.
3 head of cattle	9 pounds	gun flints	18d. per doz.
1 pr. of pantaloons	1 sh., 4d.		

As set down in the "Ledger," payment for services in one instance was \$255.20 per annum. A cow was bought for \$10.50. Whiskey at times was 35 cents a gallon. It was 50 cents for the travelers to Indiana. The general character of the business may be illustrated by the fact that the store sold among many articles, spectacles, shingles, medicines, dry goods, hardware, buttons and tobacco.

The book fell into the hands of the Goodrich children. They used it as scrap paper. Older ones among them practised penmanship in it. We note the names, sometimes several times repeated, of George W., Edmund B., Fletcher, Carrey S., Rebecca, John F. (Fletcher again), and Calvin G. Goodrich. From the similarity of handwriting to that of the letter we have copied, Edmund must have done most of the scribbling. In one place the name of George Whitfield Goodrich is altered to George Washington Goodrich, as though George was thinking his parents might have done better in naming him. After removal to Indiana, Edmund employed the "Ledger" for his accounts as road commis-







sioner. Some one practised the phraseology of law forms in it, and later a lawyer, probably Carey, made a few records of his business: "To writing will," "To Writ of Habeas Corpus," "To defence in chancery," "To replevining steer," and so on. Then there is a list of balances, 1837, together with a very rough inventory of goods. In one place it is difficult to tell whether a business, the accounts of which were kept in the "Ledger" at least temporarily, was public or private. We suspect the latter because of the frequent appearance of names of the Goodrichs. They would seem to have taken avidly to an opportunity to have their purchases charged. On a sixty dollar loan, interest was paid, or commanded, at  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

To return to the "Bill of Our Expenses:" Shortly before arriving at Winchester, sugar was bought by the emigrants of John Banta, and he was paid  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents for "pulling us out of the mud." Mr. Richard Banta of the faculty of Wabash College, Crawfordsville, surmises that John was an inn-keeper, but he cannot place this one as a member of his own family. There were, he tells us, numbers of Bantas in Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana, one John Banta of Switzerland County, Indiana, raising four or five sons, "who all became famous river men."

An entry of the "Ledger" is under the head "Memoranda of Plank sawed by Wood & Elkins out of Timber." It is undated, but clearly refers to Randolph County lumber. This was submitted to Mr. Richard Gebhart of Hendersonville, N. C., formerly in the lumber trade. He directed attention particularly to the item, "40 feet  $1\frac{1}{2}$  Ind. walnut plank." Such walnut, together with that of Ohio, is held to be the best in the world: The dimensions recited are larger than those which have become standard. The impression upon Mr. Gebhart is that all of the material was for house building, and that "scantling 12 x 3", of which twelve planks



were sawed, was for flooring. He is of opinion that the logs came out of Goodrich timber, were hauled to a mill, and that the mill was water-driven.





## III

The first settlement in Randolph County, Indiana, was in 1814, only seventeen years before the Goodrichs came in with their wagon and carryall. Land was first entered between Spartanburg and Arba, and in Arba the first school was established, just a year after settlement was undertaken. The schoolhouse was a small log cabin with puncheon floor and windows of scraped hog or deer bladder. Light was dim both because of this nearly opaque parchment and the location in the woods. The county was heavily timbered in oaks, hard and soft maple, beech, poplar, black walnut, hackberry, hickory and wild cherry on the higher ground; sycamore, willows, locust, swamp ash, various elms, basswood and other soft woods on the river banks and in the swamps. No cedars or pines have been native to the county. For all that the highest altitude of the state is in Randolph County and the streams run fast, drainage was poor in the period of settlement. Swamps spread over the land. After rain or melting snow, roads were all except impassable. This condition prevailed into 1863, when a gravel road was built between Winchester and Portland. Before this there had been corduroy. But it rotted away fast or was washed out in time of freshets. Progress over it was by bumps and thumps.

Two important rivers rise in the county, the White and the Whitewater, with the lesser Mississinewa rising in Wayne Township, due east of Union City. Each drains a large area, its valleys of high fertility. Years without end the county has never had a complete crop failure. It may be that the altitude, rising to 1285 feet above sea level, had an indirect influence on settlement, for the bulk of the first-comers came from upland North Carolina, Virginia and Kentucky. They best felt at home in the kind of terrain they were familiar with, or that which nearest approached it.



On a Hinshaw farm is a barn so built that rain on its south side falls to the ground and flows to a source of Whitewater River whose discharge is to the southwest; from the north side, rain reaches White River of the Wabash system.

In 1838, Edmund B., Carey S. and George W. Goodrich were concerned with the official organization of Winchester. Another man of local affairs was David Heaston, descendants of whom have remained in the county. Enos L. Watson, father of United States Senator James E. Watson, came from Darke County, Ohio, in or about 1835. Enos, General Thomas M. Brown and the father of the senior author of this work plodded to Portland afoot one day and home again at night for the trying of a lawsuit, the roads being too deep in mud to be ridden over even on horseback. Mud may be said to have been for a while Randolph County's most plentiful natural resource.

That the first railroad did not come until 1858 was only thirty years after the running of the first passenger train in America, and this train was horse-drawn. The pioneer local line was the Cleveland, Cincinnati and St. Louis, followed by the road which has been absorbed into the Pennsylvania system. This latter railway to begin with was content with a Richmond to Portland mileage. It is set down in history that all of Indiana profited from the Wabash Canal, but as concerns Randolph County the profit was indirect. More depended upon was the Miami and Erie Canal. Hogs of the county, furnishing their own transport, were driven to Piqua, Ohio. They were there butchered. The pork was loaded on canal boats for Cincinnati. The senior author can recall the sight of flocks of turkeys making their slow way over roads to Piqua, some of them from as far away as Jay County, Indiana. Their fate at Piqua was the same as that of the hogs.

As in all the wooded part of the Middle West, the first







dwellings were of logs. If their owners did not do the building by their own hands alone they had a share in the construction. That is, they usually trimmed the logs, aided in rolling them into position or did the chimney or the doors or windows. A highly interesting fact is that people were scarcely housed in their cabins before they undertook to replace them with larger dwellings, brick and stone, ornamentation. Indeed, there are indications that the newer construction was going on at the same time that log houses were going up on newly entered land. One of the earliest, if not the very earliest, of what we can call mansions still stands in South Meridian Street. It originally had a half-square for grounds. It is of two stories, brick. The front door is of solid wood. Entrance is at the middle of the house and into a wide hall from which a beautiful stairway leads to the upper floor. The outstanding feature consists of cast iron known as the grape pattern. These grills are supposed to have been brought from France. Dark slate was the first roof. A second outstanding house was built by Moorman Way, an eccentric Carolinian lawyer, whose first Winchester dwelling was a double log cabin. It is of two stories; the ceilings high. Bricks for it were made in a small field just across the road. Until fairly recent years, the log house and log stable that were Way's first property were still standing on the property. The mansion followed that of the South Meridian Street house in being fronted with iron grill-work of handsome design. Two other dwellings are marked by the same effect of solidity, balance and fine workmanship. It may be said with certainty that George Whitfield Goodrich was architect and builder of two of these substantial houses, and tradition credits him with designing the others. In one he himself lived, then his brother Carey and finally his mother before the property passed out of the



family hands. Winchester architecture has a distinctively southern phase.

For all the striking differences between the log cabins and their personable successors, they had in their first years one thing in common. Each had a wood pile, and at them when school was not in session was usually a boy whose chore, rain or shine, was to keep the fires supplied with fuel.

In contrast to house construction in many other communities of the Middle West, that of Winchester has been of signal substantiality. The house in which the senior author lived as a young married man was erected by his grandfather in 1837 or 1838. Every stick of timber in it was of black walnut, as were joists, sills and shingles. It sheltered not less than three generations.

Sanitation as it is standardized today simply did not exist in the period of settlement. Had anyone then had the imagination to dream of it he would most surely have been laughed at if not considered mentally unsound. The corn field was the main reliance for food, the forests and swamps and savannahs helping out when time could be spared for hunting and the gathering of wild fruits. Small gardens, usually under the care of the womenfolk, provided vegetables seasonally, and a certain amount of the material was dried or preserved against the coming of winter. Hog killing came in its due course, and ordinarily neighbors joined hands together in this task. Subjects at school were restricted in number, and taught by continuous repetition and the aid of the switch. Local government was reduced to the simple terms of administering justice, maintaining records and collecting taxes; state government mainly of concern at time of election, and federal government a source of tenets and policies to argue over. Some light on conditions is supplied by a story of Edmund Goodrich. As a county officer,







he journeyed into what is now Jay County to prod settlers into disgorging tax money. He collected nothing, choosing rather to commiserate with the people rather than censure them. He said he did not blame them for their resistance to his demands inasmuch as folk who penetrated into such a wilderness should not be penalized for their courage.

The earlier grist mills were crude water-power affairs. Such a one had a small set of burrs cut from granite boulders of local occurrences. It would take several times as long to grind a sack of hand-shelled corn as it takes to grind a ton of corn with modern equipment. A mill halted its service with the grinding. The customer screened and bolted the grist after reaching home. Not less primitive were the saw mills. Saws operated vertically, not circularly as does the common saw of the present. Recalled is Mr. Hayworth of the Hayworth Mill on White River. In cutting timbers twenty-four feet long for a barn, he would set the oak log painstakingly, clamp down, sit on the tail end and read his Bible while the saw slowly ate its way through the wood. Mills were of simple construction, requiring little outlay of money and operating, as the saying was, on a rain barrel of water. Hence there were many in Randolph County. The miller often enough was farmer or merchant or carpenter or blacksmith in the main pursuit of livelihood, a miller as trade came to him now and then.

The Indiana term for maple syrup, probably starting as a jest, was tree molasses. A grove of hard maples, about twenty acres in all, was on the farm that Edmund Goodrich bought in 1832. In it was placed the sugar camp of unchinked logs, its clapboard roof sheltering three forty-gallon cast-iron kettles that were set in a bricked fire box. Sap was brought to this boiling-down plant in ten-quart wooden stave buckets by means of a "mud boat." In preparation of



sugaring time, spiles were made of elderberry-bush stalks. They were trimmed to fit into holes in the tree bored with an auger at about twenty-four inches above ground. When several barrels of the sap had been brought under cover, the boiling began. It was a continuous, hard-working period while it lasted. Commonly at the end there was just enough of the syrup to go around among the immediate relatives, but if any of it were sold seventy-five cents a gallon was counted a fair price.

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Another farm product remembered with vividness by the senior author was soft soap. It had its start with the leaching of wood ashes in a hopper standing several feet above ground level. To the boys fell the duty of pouring water upon the ashes every day. This meant not only carrying water from the well a hundred feet or more away, but also getting it up a ladder and into the vat. The lye was considered of sufficient strength when it would float a fresh egg. It was boiled with kitchen refuse and cracklings from lard rendering in an outdoor iron kettle, a job lasting two or three days. Soft soap was at the time a washday necessity, this washing being carried on out of doors invariably. The soap was kept close to the pump for hands and face washing, and its effectiveness in that point was never to be questioned. The trouble was that the soap tended to take skin along with the grime, and it could cause a good deal of hopping about if there happened to be skin abrasions.

For home use candles were made of beef tallow. The candles were notable for burning fast, and giving off a reek far from the likeness of perfume. From the tanner was obtained a material called "dubbin." It had only one purpose so far as the senior author can recall. This was the greasing of boots.

If we can go on the family possession of the "Ledger"







aforementioned and its entries, John Baldwin Goodrich had something to do with storekeeping in Christiansburg, although this may have been nothing more than doing the accounting. In Winchester, Edmund, John Baldwin's second oldest son, tried his hand at the business, and from an old account book it would appear that Edmund and his brother Carey made the same kind of a venture in Maxville, a town of Randolph County which has faded out. Offhand it is easy to conclude that storekeeping of the small-town sort required little capital, much application and little experience. But as credit had not only to be obtained from wholesale merchants and allowed freely to customers risks were involved. Then almost everything a settlement could ask for had to be in stock. This ran from plows to drugs, from horse collars to thimbles, from shoes for farm animals to shoes for infants. In Maxville, and perhaps also in Winchester, was an amazing consumption of castor oil and quinine. Edmund and Carey failed as storekeepers for all that they prospered in other lines. It is to be suspected that the cause of failure was the too generous grant of credit—to Goodrichs among other customers.

Legendary in the family is the story, already told, that when the wagon broke down in Randolph County great-grandmother remarked that one swamp was as good as another, and made up her mind to settle on the spot rather than to go on to her original goal many more miles to the north. For a woman of such determined character this was something of a surrender. But she was philosophical more than she was masterful of purpose. She looked about her. She took shrewd measure of the land and its possibilities, finally buying two hundred acres—in this doubtless making use of the same long-time credit which we have seen that her son Edmund exercised. She had first a log cabin of two



stories. Whether it came with the land or was of her building is not to be learned from information available. In time she erected a frame house about forty rods southwest of the log house. Later it was moved east to set beside the road. The house became Carey Goodrich's property. Altered and receiving additions, it still stands, and is occupied and owned by Edward Fidler and family. The cabin, very much broken down, was to be seen as recently as the 1870's.

Two years after residence had been taken in Indiana, great-grandmother returned to Virginia for a visit. Unfrightened by the experiences she had undergone in 1831-32, she again elected to travel in winter. There were, of course, quite practical reasons for this choice of seasons aside from the test of fortitude and will-power. This was the period of lightest work on the farm. Frozen roads were easier to negotiate than those reduced to sloughs. There were fewer swollen streams to ford. For company, great-grandmother had her son, George Whitfield. They rode on horseback. For a woman of the time, horseback riding compelled the use of the side-saddle, at once an awkward accoutrement and wearing at least to the temper of the rider. In March, the mother and son were back in Indiana. Persuasion, some degree of command it is believable—for Rebecca Pearse Goodrich had elements of the sultana in her—were brought to bear on the children who had been left behind in the South. They followed her back to Winchester until nearly every one of her offsprings were within reach of her counsel and authority.

Two anecdotes illustrate the physical and social conditions in eastern Indiana to which the early immigrants made attempt to adjust themselves. Great-grandmother and her daughter Eliza went visiting one afternoon. They started home as darkness came on, cutting through the woods.







Whatever path there was was too dim to see. All trees looked alike. Shortly, the two were aware that they were lost. Instead of wandering about and becoming more confused, great-grandmother stopped still and shouted. She called out the names of her sons one by one. After a long time she was heard, and the boys came to the rescue with torches. In the possession of Mrs. Margaret Neff was fine silverware, in Rebecca Goodrich's very handsome chinaware. Neither possession alone made so good a showing as both together. So when the turns of Mrs. Neff and great-grandmother came to give parties they joined forces, brought silverware and china to the same table and paraded their glories.

Rebecca Pearse Goodrich was a kind of human radiance. She was a magnet that held a large family together beyond the ages at which the average American family was breaking up. In her was something more than mere affection for children, and that was an understanding, probably undefined in her mind, that there was strength in a family if only as a social unit. We catch ourselves wondering if the children did not hold her not simply in love, but also in awe in which a certain amount of fear was woven. She was in any case a light unto their feet, and so remained to her last day. The full amount of the estate she left is not known to us, but one item of it has been remembered, namely, that it showed loans to her children totalling \$4500. What she had come out of Virginia with was very few dollars, and a will and purpose like a great hill.

She died on June 1, 1876, just about three months short of being eighty years of age.



## IV

The childhood of the fourteen children of Rebecca Pearse Goodrich was passed through when certain diseases, measles for example, were taken as the price of being born, and no more to be escaped than doing household tasks. The fourteen all reached maturity. Twelve became parents in their own right, the records show or so indicate. It may be assumed that in the father and mother were strains of what we may call ruggedness that gave the fourteen some advantage over the common ailments as well as over the rough medication any illness entailed.

We find the male children spoken of as small, black-eyed, and this was probably true as of those of the other sex. Yet by "small" may have been meant average stature rather than under it, for the males at least came into comparison with the lanky, high-pocketed men of the southern hill country. So far as we know, not one of the children was corpulent. Rather they were a wiry stock; whatever may have been lacking in, say, height and weight, they were equal to the labors that life on the frontier demanded. There was in them the usual variation of a large family as regards energy, ambition, the desire for learning, the capacity to get ahead in the world. In some of the sons, not fewer than three, was an adventurous spirit taking the form of wandering. One of the rovers was killed in his early manhood, presumably by Indians. Another went through military experiences, illnesses of a grave sort, being tossed by a tornado and bitten by rattlesnakes—all without preventing him from living more years than his mother had lived. It has been said of all the sons who sired children that they were strong-willed disciplinarians, a matter that could be laid at the feet of general custom as much as to personal inclination. Of a sister of theirs, it was declared that her children were "never quite comfortable with her." From what we have heard of two







or three, the two or three, if living today, would halt their cars on the railroad tracks and demand that the locomotives get out of the way. For all that harshness was in some, obstinacy perhaps in all, there were streaks of soft-heartedness in the line, betrayed often enough to become memories.

We have gathered together such information of the fourteen children as we could. This will be seen to be greatly varied in amounts, a thing we could not help. For family recollections are uncertain, often dubious, things to have to lean upon.

Thomas Watkins, born August 3, 1803; died August 17, 1839; place of birth probably Petersburg, Virginia. Eliza Beverly mentioned him as trudging beside the wagons on the journey out of the south. He married Elizabeth-----, apparently in Indiana. For a time he lived in a house in Winchester on what was known as the Goodrich lot, being evicted by fire. Then he became a farmer on the old Union City pike. He was buried in Winchester. We have to rate Thomas as the most obscure of the eight sons.

Edmund Baldwin, born April 19, 1808, in Christiansburg; died February 4, 1843, in Winchester. The Edmund of his name was for his Goodrich grandfather of Amherst County, Virginia; the Baldwin could have been for his father or his maternal grandfather. Edmund was, in a current phrase, a "quick-learner." By the time he was of legal age he had picked up at least some smattering of the law, was in charge of a township library, and was administering the county poor account. He took charge of the family affairs upon the death of his father, and in keeping with a custom of the period, acted as trustee or executor of the estate—business being considered to belong exclusively to males. Shortly before the removal to Indiana, he married Ellen Bell, apparently of the family of John Bell of Montgomery County, Virginia, adjoining whose land John Baldwin Goodrich bought his 1134 acres in 1821. It was Edmund's wagon that led



the winter journey to the "western country." We may suppose it was from notes put down while on the trip that the bill of expenses, listed in the "Ledger," was written, and, furthermore, that it was he who made out the final list. On leaving Virginia, Edmund transferred the trusteeship of the father's estate to Alexander Black, and we have the record that in 1833 Black, acting for Edmund and his wife, conveyed to John Helm a house in Blacksburg in which Edmund and his family had lived. We have seen from his letter home to Virginia that in Indiana Edmund set out to be a farmer, and that he had a shrewd eye for future land values. Farming he did carry on certainly, but this was not all. He acted as road commissioner. He became a school trustee. With his brother Carey he adventured into the storekeeping mentioned in an earlier chapter of this work. He was elected probate judge of Randolph County. Something has been said of his tramp afoot to try a lawsuit and of his sympathy toward settlers in a wilderness who balked against paying taxes. So for a citizen who had lived only twelve years in a new community, he must be put down as an astonishingly busy citizen. From him and his wife Ellen Bell descend the Goodrichs still resident to Winchester. A second marriage was made, this to Mary Robinson "of Virginia," from which there was issue Nancy, Ellen and Indiana. Forty acres of land Edmund had once owned became the John B. Goodrich Park, a gift to the public of Elizabeth, wife of John Baldwin Goodrich, Edmund's son.

This son, John Baldwin Goodrich, resembled his father physically and in point of activities and industry. This is to say that he had the slenderness and stature of the Goodrichs of Virginia about whom we have information. It was his lot to be brought into Indiana virtually in his mother's arms. Besides the education supplied publicly at Winchester, he received that of the Winchester Seminary, now defunct. He operated his father's farm, became county recorder and







then county clerk. The organization of the First Presbyterian Church is accredited to his leadership. John Baldwin was of remarkable kindness and generosity. He died in 1872. Representing the third generation after Rebecca Pearse Goodrich were five sons of John and Elizabeth Edger—Percy Edgar, James Putman, John Baldwin, Edward Shields and William Wallace. James Putnam of the line is that one mentioned in this account as Governor Goodrich. He served in the office during the tumultuous years of the First World War, and hence is spoken of as a "war governor." But his duties extended far beyond this—into reforming the state taxation and banking system, for example. He appears to have been proudest of his establishment of great public parks, which he was successful in accomplishing without cost to the state.

A perplexing family tradition concerns relationship with one William Wallace, a naval officer either of the American Revolution or of the War of 1812. For him was named William Wallace Goodrich, a brother of the senior author, and we have met with a Wallace Goodrich whose origins go back to the Amherst County, Virginia, pioneers, the same as John Baldwin Goodrich. Insistence is that the given name does not derive from the Scottish patriot William Wallace of the thirteenth century as might be suspected, but is proud satisfaction in being connected with a sailor of early days of the republic. Yet we have been unable to trace the individual in the historical records. That of course may be through oversight. In any case we do not feel like quarreling with a legend so strenuously maintained.

William Wallace Goodrich, son of Edmund Baldwin and Ellen Bell and brother of John Baldwin Goodrich was born in Indiana in 1833 on the Goodrich farm just northeast of the town of Winchester, Indiana. He was educated in Winchester in the Randolph County Seminary. He went into partnership with a man whose name was Sutton in Dunkirk,





Indiana. His wife was Kate Bond who was reared in Wayne County and to this union were born Edmund, Minnie, Frank, John Baldwin, Charles Taylor and Irene. About this time in their married life he entered the postal division of the United States government and was a route agent on the G. R. & I. Railroad for a number of years. When they lived in Winchester his route was from Winchester to Portland, Indiana, then to Richmond, Indiana, back to Winchester for the day. He held this position for many years until he retired.

Celestina St. Pierre, born March 7, 1808; died in 1875. Celestina was the first daughter of the Christiansburg habitation. She married Christian Snidow, probably at Blacksburg. The Snidows moved to Winchester, apparently at Rebecca Pearse Goodrich's persuasion. There was removal to Tuscumbia, Alabama. There Christian died. Celestina's death was in Winchester.

John Fletcher, born March 15, 1810; date of death unknown. Fletcher, Mrs. Beverly wrote, received a more thorough education than did his brothers and was rated a "scholar." His was of the roving spirit which flamed so high in western pioneering decades, notable alike for high achievement and tragic failure. He was in the West in advance of his family, but was never seen by it there. He did write letters though, and was heard from Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky and Mississippi. One scrap of his history, the only concrete thing we can report of his own telling, was that he had been lost in a snowstorm near Cincinnati and came near perishing. "After the lapse of a long interval," Mrs. Beverly wrote, a body was found in Texas on which were letters that ultimately made it clear that the body was Fletcher's. It was family supposition that he had been killed by Indians, but Texas in that day was a land of tumult, containing not only Indians with a grudge against whites, but also murderous Mexicans and Americans who





took human life as offhandedly as they shot coyotes.

Carey Seldon, born August 15, 1811, at Christiansburg; died in Winchester in 1865. Both his baptismal names were from names of his mother's family. So far as we have any evidence, he was the only one of the children who returned to the original home of Petersburg, and it would seem that neither his father nor mother ever did so. This is another illustration of the difficulties of travel in the earlier part of the Nineteenth Century. For several years, Carey worked for a Petersburg firm of drygoods merchants. It may be assumed that he served an apprenticeship to the house. Such servitudes were notorious for long hours of labor and skimpy remuneration. Carey possibly escaped the hardships inasmuch as he did not fail of education. There exist letters of his to James G. Berney, known to history as the presidential candidate of one of the obscure pre-Civil War parties. The letters were well written as regards penmanship and the use of English. When finally he moved to Winchester, he joined his brother Edmund in establishing stores under the title of Goodrich Brothers. This name as printed is on the underside of an old elkskin-covered trunk that came in the course of time into the possession of the senior author. Through with storekeeping, which was a failure, Carey went into the law. The "Ledger" of our narrative was of use to him for writing down legal formulae and keeping account of replevins, writs, services at court, and the like. His wealth, which became at least large for the community, was partly made by the sale of horses and mules to the government during the Civil War. His house in Winchester still stands. He is buried in a cemetery now overgrown with weeds and briars. Carey married Jane Hutton of Richmond, Indiana. One child, Anna, was born to the couple. She married Albert Jessup, a farmer of Wayne County, and to the Jessups was born Walter G. Jessup who became an educator of national prominence, a university president and pres-



ident of the Carnegie Foundation, an office he was holding at his death. Carey resembled Edmund in energy, enterprise and persistence, but he seems to have been of a harder, more self-centered strain.

Carolina Louisa, born August 15, 1813, presumably in Christiansburg; died in Winchester in 1854. Ten years before her death she had married Dr. J. E. Beverly. Whatever candle she had, Carolina Louisa put under a bushel.

George Whitfield, born March 5, 1815, in Blacksburg; died in Peru, August 21, 1873. Named for George Whitefield, 1714-1770, "founder of the Calvinist Methodists," in whose name the first "e" was present or not as suited people. Our George began work in Winchester as a carpenter. Before long he was an architect and builder. At least four dwellings of Winchester still standing are known to be his handiwork, one of them the beautifully grilled house in Meridian Street. George married Jane Elizabeth MacPherson at Winchester in 1840. She was the sister of General Birdseye MacPherson who was killed in the Battle of Atlantic, 1864. The couple moved to Peru, Miami County, Indiana, shortly after marriage. Family tradition is that George was connected there with the construction of the Wabash Canal, surveying being among his self-taught arts. To escape what was then known as the "Wabash Shakes," he joined an emigration party having the same intention in mind that moved by wagon into the western country. A claim was taken up in Neosho County, Kansas. The region though of rich soil was subject to raiding both by Indians and proslavery bands from Missouri. For greater security, the family shifted to Granby in the Missouri lead-mining area, not far away. George prospered in the development of mines. As the Civil War approached, local sentiment became secessionist. George as a Unionist was a target for anti-Unionist activities. For a period he was forced to hide in the woods, food being brought to him at night by a son. Finally, he





was taken prisoner by Price's army. This army being routed by Union forces, George fell prisoner to Federalists. Only with difficulty did he obtain release. To gain transportation to Rolla, Missouri, held by Unionists and the end of a railroad from St. Louis, George surrendered all his Missouri property to a settler who carried the family out of the area of disturbance by back roads. Refuge was taken for a while at Winchester, apparently with the mother, Rebecca Pearse Goodrich. Then return was made to Peru. Here ground was recovered financially, and on his death George was counted well-to-do. A lawyer of Peru informed the junior author that he came upon the name frequently as a holder of public offices. George Whitfield's portrait, if it can be taken as indicative of character, shows him to have been exacting, perhaps intolerant. An anecdote of his son, DeWitt Clinton, is that the father compelled the reading of Hume's "History of England" on week-days when, to the son, it was of heavy dullness, and would not permit its reading on Sundays when it would have been a relief from compulsory theological instruction. The burial place of this branch of the family at Peru continues in its possession and under its protection though no member has lived in the town since the 1870's. Descendants of George Whitfield Goodrich run at this time to great-great-grandchildren, and in residence range from Connecticut to Oregon. Among some of them of nearer kinship has been at least one of the restlessness marked particularly in certain of George's brothers.

Rebecca Pearse, born in Blacksburg August 31, 1816; died in Indiana in 1853. She was married to Thomas McKim of Rochester in 1840. She is not mentioned in Eliza Beverly's list of those who made the wagon and carryall journey in 1831, although it seems likely that she was in this party inas much as she was then only fifteen years of age. Of her personality and any incident of her life, beyond that of birth, marriage and death, we have nothing. The impression is left





that like the eldest son she was what we speak of today as colorless.

Alfred Keiling (or Keeling), born March 14, 1818; died in San Francisco in about the year 1912. In Randolph County he was a farmer and a harnessmaker. While still a young man he moved to northern Indiana, and from there to Missouri. According to Eliza Beverly's account, this second migration was as early as 1836. His return to Winchester was in 1866, after he had served with the Union army throughout the Civil War. He then made his way back to Missouri. As regards the shift to California, when and how, no record exists. There is a letter from him wherein he said he had fought in the bushwacker brawls and scrimmages of Kansas, suffered three serious wounds, had been bitten by rattlesnakes and blown half a mile by a cyclone. In one of the adventures he lost a thumb. At the time he wrote, he reported himself half-blind. Marriages were first to Elizabeth Griffith of Richmond, Indiana; second to Rebecca Gavin of Springfield, Missouri. He is classed in family account as one of its rolling stones, improvident, and yet of good character. If we are correct about the year of his death, he was then ninety-four years of age, or close to it.

Calvin Gibson, born May 11, 1820; died in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1880. Calvin was only eleven years old when the winter journey was made out of Virginia, and was yet one of those who walked. He attended Asbury Academy that later was absorbed into DePauw University of Greencastle, Indiana. Then for a while he taught school in the Randolph County Seminary of Winchester. He went shortly to Richmond to study medicine under a Dr. Vaile. Thence he went to a medical school at Cincinnati, and for a while taught in it. He took up practice on his own account at Knightstown, about thirty miles to the southwest of Winchester. Another move was to Oxford, Ohio, the site of Miami University. By Mrs. Beverly's account, he was here



for twenty years, making a final transfer to Minneapolis. Seemingly, it was while in Cincinnati that he married Mary Wall of Richmond. A second wife was Mrs. Harriet Dadman of Boston. Calvin died at about sixty years of age. He is remembered as energetic and tireless, the way of Edmund and Carey. More like Carey than Edmund, he accumulated large wealth. Ill health is supposed to have induced the removal to Minneapolis, yet there he carried on his duties as a physician with remarkable vigor and endurance.

Martin Luther, born March 20, 1822; date and place of death unknown. Martin taught school in Randolph County for a few seasons. A first wife was Savina Funk of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He was in Washington County, Missouri, in 1856, but from the fact that his second wife was Sarah Lucy Johnson of Granby, the same state, and this was at least two hundred miles from Washington County, it may be gathered that he was living in this village at the same time that his brother George was. He fled to the North when the Civil War came on, and there our knowledge of him leaves off.

Jane Alexina, born February 10, 1824; died in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1906. She married Burgess Pierce. After the two had lived in Toledo, Ohio, for some years, they moved to Atlanta. Daughters were Rebecca and Louise. She had been a student of the Female College of Oxford, Ohio, at the same time her sister Eliza was. By family account, she had the sense of discipline that marked the characters of her brothers.

Ann Eliza, born February 15, 1826, in Blacksburg; died in Winchester in 1906. She was five years old when the journey was made to Indiana, yet from her memory of it we have all that is known of the dragging migration, leaving out the little that Edmund told as if with reluctance. Eliza was the most colorful of great-grandmother's daughters. She had wit, as when she asked if her nephew James, seen often





at play, did not visit school now and then. She had a gift for telling stories, and she could enter into vivid details about personal experiences. We here print a sketch that Miss Mary Deam wrote of her:

"Eliza Beverly was the youngest daughter of Rebecca Pearse and John Baldwin Goodrich. She had come with her family from Virginia at the age of five, and grew up in the pioneer cabin in Randolph County. Her education in that period consisted mostly of the tales of old Virginia life heard at her mother's knee. She had a wonderful memory, and what her mother told her she remembered faithfully, and it became to her the model on which all future family standards should be patterned. She belonged to the generation and the class of society which prized good manners and distinguished deportment, and she had translated this sort of thinking into her ethical code. She became the mentor of her family and of her nieces and nephews who made light of her efforts in their behalf, but who respected her deeply. It was largely thru her efforts that family pride and respect were developed and strengthened.

"When her brother Calvin located as a doctor in Oxford, Ohio, she went with him to enter Oxford Female College where she was recognized as a very able student. She was graduated as the valedictorian of the class. She married in 1856 Dr. John Beverly, a man of intellect and high principle. They had two daughters, Rebecca, who was an invalid most of her life, and Eva, who died in the prime of a beautiful womanhood.

"Her whole life was a valiant and heroic struggle to attain for herself and her family the greatest ideal of sturdy character upheld by an honorable pride and self respect. She died in 1906."

Charles Taylor, born August 31, 1828, at Blacksburg; died in Cincinnati, Ohio, December 17, 1901. He was named for a man with whom his father was associated in land deals at





Christiansburg, and who apparently was more than merely a business partner. Like two of his brothers, Charles taught school in his early manhood. He moved to Cincinnati, and became a clerk in a store. From this he brought about the establishment of the house of Goodrich, Peale and Company, dealing wholesale in hats and caps. At the same time that he was extending his business interests, he was active in local public affairs. His wife was Nancy, daughter of Dr. Ralph Brown. Of such interests and events of life that can be set down about a man, the authors confess to have little as concerns Charles. Yet he is remembered for points of habit and character perhaps more than are some of the other members of the family. For one thing, he was of singular neatness. On almost all outdoor occasions he wore a high hat of great shininess, smoothing its nap as though experiencing a senuous delight by it. Opinion was pronounced of nature, and was stated with a positiveness suggesting that in his mind it was something like heresy to dispute it. We seem to see in him a reflection of his mother's stout determination, together with her industry and ambition. A daughter, Mrs. Grace Bradley, is the only surviving member of Charles' family, and, it will be noted, the only one left of what, as regards the family, is her generation.



## V

The grandfather of John Baldwin Goodrich who is known to us by name was James Goodrich, born about 1740. He was a resident of Amherst County, Virginia, at his death. His son Edmund was born about 1760, presumably in Amherst County, for here John Baldwin Goodrich was born in 1782 or 1783.

Since Richmond was not founded until 1733 and Amherst County represented a much more daring invasion to the west, it is fair to infer that James' birthplace was at least not deeper in the wilderness than Richmond. The town in truth was only seven years old when James came into the world. He appears in Amherst County records first as the purchaser of lands on the west side of Tobacco Mountain. This was in 1777, and in or about his thirty-seventh year. His first wife was Margaret, daughter of Daniel Edmond of Augusta County, who at death was described as a Revolutionary pensioner. A second wife was Jane Brown, the year of marriage, 1789. Four years before this a daughter, Elizabeth, was married to a Richard Lawless. Other children of James as shown by a deed book were Thomas, John B., Edmund, Gideon C., Phebe, Mary, Susan, Catherine and Abigail. Most of them, if not all, were doubtless borne by the first wife Margaret.

Edmund, father of John Baldwin Goodrich, married first Amy Watkins, second Sally Grissom. This later marriage was in 1812 and after John Baldwin himself had been married for ten years. Land was conveyed by Edmund to his wife Sally in 1818. He was signer in 1823 of deeds for the sale of his father James' lands. He acted as executor of the estate of a Martha Hudson. An inventory of his own property was filed February 20, 1824, and if his death was in that year, he was then sixty-four years old, or thereabouts. Trustees were Duncan Thomas Goodrich and





Gideon C. Goodrich, who may have been Edmund's brothers, or sons named for the brothers. The appraisal, such as we know of it, would seem to indicate a certain prosperity, or at least a position of some importance in the county. In 1805, John Baldwin Goodrich transferred rights to Augusta County acreage to John Detty (Delly?), and that may have been a harking back to the grandmother Margaret, daughter of Daniel Edmond.

On his father's side, John Baldwin Goodrich had three uncles and six aunts. The Uncle Thomas bought Amherst County lands in 1779, and there is further mention of him in records of 1794. The initial "B" of Uncle John B.'s name may have stood for Baldwin, so favored in the family, but there is no certainty about it. He married Mary Carter September 20, 1786, his father James signing as one of the witnesses. A second wife appears to have been taken inasmuch as his will, probated in 1803, contains mention of a wife Susan. Children of John B. Goodrich, son of James, and named in his will, were Nancy Haynes, Sally, John, Lucy Teel and Patty. Grandchildren were Kitty and Mary Hogg, daughters of Randolph Hogg. A Sally Goodrich was married to William H. Rice of the neighboring Bedford County in 1796. The third uncle, Gideon C., is lost in forgetfulness except for supplying a name for a son of Edmund. We have mentioned the marriage of the aunt named Elizabeth, but of Elizabeth's sisters, Phebe, Mary, Susan, Catherine and Abigail, there appears to be nothing in official records. In these Amherst County archives are the names of Samuel Goodrich, who took Elizabeth Walton to wife in 1789, and Thomas V. Goodrich, whose estate was under administration in 1846. Whether the two were of James' line we have no way of telling. Gideon C., son of Edmund and brother of John Baldwin Goodrich, married Betsy Carter on January 16, 1809, and this seems to be all of him the records speak.





The Amherst County material was gleaned by John M. Payne and A. C. Joyner. Its authenticity cannot be questioned. Mrs. Watson Fuller of Atlanta, Georgia, in a communication to the senior author, gave William Goodrich "of Virginia" as our John Baldwin's grandfather. The mistake of William for James was a natural one where information was word of mouth, and depending simply on memory.

Amherst County was established in 1761 by amputating part of the lands of Albemarle County, the seat of which was Charlottesville. It was named, of course, for that Lord Amherst who snapped up French Canada and, with Virginian help, threw enemies of England to the western side of the Mississippi. The Amherst County cover was heavy forest. The Blue Ridge lay to the west, and mountains of fair size to the northeast. In going through the country today, it is easy to imagine that in the days of its settlement it was very rough, desolate and discouraging in places. It required high courage to venture into the region then, a great fortitude to remain after once in. The most feasible entrance was from the James River, with landing at Lynchburg in Bedford County, a little to the south. That way, it is to be believed, was open rather for hunters and traders and such government officers as nosed out taxes and kept the Indians in check. The situation was probably different for bona fide settlers. They had household goods and farm implements to transport, perhaps cows and hogs and chickens, their families. They would, most likely, make the adventure over such trails they could find or break. Oxen would drag their wagons. For the men at least, their own feet were their transport. Essentials were muskets, gunpowder and lumps of lead for bullets. Inevitable companions were hound dogs.

Considering the ease with which mankind has moved over the face of America in the last hundred years, it is difficult to understand the snail-like pace with which in Virginia the movement toward the uplands began. Jamestown was



founded in 1607. For long years, few of the colonists got beyond points where the salt water tides affected the streams. "A century after the founding of Jamestown," Wertenbaker has written, "not one in a thousand had ever seen the Blue Ridge and their knowledge of it was garnered from hunters and Indians." It took more than a century and a quarter, as we have seen, for enterprise to go as far as to establish Richmond. Migrations were groping affairs. Indians did much to block the ways to the back country, but colonial governments had a share in the obstructing. They were as jealous in the matter of keeping people within reach of their power as they were eager for greater populations in the Tidewater areas. Moreover, when a family struck off for newer lands it condemned itself to a terrible loneliness. Of that solitude, the first of the Goodrichs in Amherst County must have had their full share.

Augusta County, having to do with our story as the home of James Goodrich's father-in-law, was still more remote from the Tidewater. The Virginian path to it was through the climbing, twisting gap near the present Waynesboro. But in time another entrance was developed. This was up the valley of the Shenandoah River, shadowed by high hills east and west, and, conceivably, giving no hint of its future fruitfulness. This was a route taken by Germans out of Pennsylvania. It was followed by Welch, Irish and Swiss who struck off for the southwest from the landing place at Philadelphia. A great many of them kept on going until they were absorbed by the Scotch and English who forced their way through harder gaps from ports in the Carolinas.





## VI

Mrs. Eliza Beverly spoke of her mother, Rebecca Pearse Goodrich, as small and delicate. By "delicate" she probably meant daintiness rather than weakness. To have borne fourteen children, made two outdoor journeys in the dead of winter, carried on affairs energetically and ruled her offsprings imperiously betoken anything except want of physical stamina. No one took the trouble to describe John Baldwin Goodrich as he stood in his boots. We are inclined to think that his stature was not above the average of Americans of his time, if indeed it reached that, since his sons were described as "small, black-eyed." Had he been tall, then surely out of so many sons one would have been so also. The physical heritage seems to have been of sinewiness in its most pronounced characteristic. In the line may have been Scotch highland blood inasmuch as in at least two or three of the sons were clear, dark complexions, nearly jet-black hair. The improvement in stature in later generations was possibly brought about through marriage with a taller breed though some credit should be given to better nutrition, better shelter, a postponement of the time for breadwinning and child-bearing. It has been pointed out that Kentuckians of the Blue Grass area, upon whom life had been relatively easy, are taller as a rule than their more poorly fed cousins back in the hills.

Portraits of Americans of the early part of the Nineteenth Century have caused these citizens to be likened to ancient Romans. That is, in both instances, the men were long of head, rugged of features, firm-lipped, large-nosed. They looked as though carved out of oaken knots. Some of the Goodrich males were of this type. They were far from handsome as that quality is measured, and certainly their noses can be styled ample; some noses would do for a person and a half, maybe two persons. Not often have oak-





knot like features been noticeable among the womenfolk, which is much to their advantage. Perhaps this gives emphasis to the suspicion of Scotch influences in the blood, for it has been said of the Scotch that their women are endowed with beauty, whereas the males stood behind the door when comeliness was passed around. We note a practice in the family of saying that the Goodrichs all look alike. That may be as may well be. The subject is open to debate, and, personally, the authors are hesitant about endorsing it.

The topic of heredity was of such interest to us that correspondence was had with Dr. Lee R. Dice in charge of the Department of Vertebrate Biology, University of Michigan. We quote from him:

"You are probably wrong about there being a limit to the time over which a character is inherited. So far as we know no character ever runs out of itself. There is no evidence that any character ever becomes diluted. The most significant feature of heredity is that every gene occurs in a pair. One member of each gene pair has been derived from the father and the other half of the pair from the mother. The combined action of these two paired genes produces the hereditary effect in the individual. The mother has the same amount of effect in heredity as the father, in spite of the neglect of the mother's line in most family trees. Each child on the average receives one half of his genes from his father and one half from the mother. If the mother and father differ in any hereditary character then one half of the children will have the father's character and one half will have the mother's character. Some genes, however, are recessive, and do not produce any effect unless both members of the gene pair are alike. As we go back in time we find that each child receives one quarter on the average from each grandparent, one-eighth from each great-grandparent, and so on. It may well happen that some illustrious ancestor has contributed exactly nothing to the heredity of a particular descendent. On the other hand a particular family trait will be present on the average in half the children of each genera-



tion. Sometimes these characters may be recessive, in which case they may be concealed for a number of generations before they reappear again."

The inheritance of mental characteristics is a much more complex matter than the inheritance, say, of stature or gauntness, of skull shape or peculiarities of teeth. We do not know, for illustration, whether such a thing as energy or persistence comes to a person through heritage, parental discipline, the effect of example or of ambition. Still, there is a stout popular faith that habits, outlook on the world, religious inclinations, occupational preferences and, indeed, patriotism or its opposite, do pass down from parents to child, from grandparents to grandchildren, and until science is more certain about the subject we might as well believe what the mass of people have believed since the beginning of time. Thus we can see no merit in dismissing as nonsense such expressions as "he gets his deftness of hand from his father," and "her way of speaking is as her mother's people spoke."

Three of the Virginia-born sons of John Baldwin and Rebecca Pearse Goodrich taught school as did their father. Sticking to our conviction of the inheritance of mental characteristics, we are prepared to defend the assertion that this was because of a family aptitude. Further, one other son was "rated as a scholar." Two daughters did an unusual thing among middle western pioneer women by going to college, and one of them was valedictorian of her class. Edmund, the second oldest child, was able by his own efforts to fit himself for the law, and to become a judge. Carey was nearly equal in this, and, furthermore, as his letters show, could write well and commandingly. George advanced from carpenter to architect and builder and on to civil engineer. We have the word of his brother Charles that George devised the basic system of present-day safety deposit boxes, long of course before there was a demand for it. Five and





probably six were farmers though it is not clear that more than one was a farmer solely, without shift of occupation. Calvin alone was a doctor. In at least two of the sons was distinct mechanical ability. We lean toward faith in its inheritability because certain descendants appear to have had it almost from infancy. Public office was held by two, for a time two were storekeepers. Again, three amassed wealth beyond mere competences, and a fourth was counted well-to-do at his death although but a few years before this, due to Civil War disturbances, he was all except penniless.

We confess to a fondness for the three rolling stones in whom their mother's energy, supposing they had it, took the form of wanderlust. They belong to that company of lusty Americans who, in a way of speaking, marked out the path for stable settlers. They suffered the fate of most rolling stones, against whom circumstance is powerfully arrayed. But there is no reason to believe that any one of them did not draw satisfactions from life, or that for a moment he classed himself with failures.





## VII

Beginning with this chapter, it is proposed to deal with Goodrich family history so far as such history is available, to weigh family traditions, to tell something of the conditions, physical and social, in which it lived its first decades in America, and to consider those influences which decided its religious convictions. Since there is a gap in its genealogy, we will venture to attempt in a general way to bridge it. There will be accounts of adventure and misadventure. The want of detail about most individual members is due to the want of written records concerning them, as is true of very nearly all American families. The emphasis of life in the New World until recent years was upon the struggle for livelihood; it consumed energy and thought, and the matter of origins and relationships was neglected and so all except lost to chronology and memory.

These variations from the common spelling of Goodrich have been met with:

Godrick	Goderich	Goodrick	Guttrige	Gutaridge
Godridge	Goderidge	Goodritch	Gutteridge	Gutrich
Godrige	Goderiche	Goodridge	Guttridg	Gutredge
Godrich	Gotridge	Guthric	Gutheridge	Gutterage
Goderick	Gothridge	Guttridge	Guthridge	Goodryke
				Gooderirich

Godric has been omitted intentionally from the list. It does not appear to have been used as a family name in the modern sense, but historically was assumed by a pedlar, shipman and merchant who, after many years as a sea-faring trader, became a pietist. He made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, returned to western Europe, and established himself as a hermit near Durham in England. For nearly a half-century he practiced the devotions which the times held to be particularly acceptable to the Almighty. He was one of many who by a kind of popular agreement were entitled saints within their own lifetime. His death was in 1170.



Some of the spelling, Goodrick and Goodridge possibly the best examples, were the preferences of individual Goodrichs, or were indicative of family pride or eccentricity—a thing not unknown even in this day among members of other stocks. They became fixed by time and custom. Some spellings were as friends or acquaintances guessed them to be, and were marks of carelessness or ignorance. One J. Robinson was premier of Great Britain in the 1820's. He had the title of Viscount Goderick. The diaryist Creevey wrote of him both as Godrich and Lord Goodrich; of the viscount's wife as Lady Goodrick. The several Tuetonic-appearing names, Guthric to Gutterage of the list, can be assigned to schoolmasters, court clerks, county officers and army enlisting officers. They spelled the name as it sounded to them. Hence Goodrichs are on record in odd guise, and not as the Goodrichs concerned would have spelled them, were they able to spell at all. The Silas Goodrich of the Lewis and Clark Expedition to the Pacific shore, 1803-1806, was Goodrich, Gutrich, Gutredge and Gutterage in the notes of his commander. "This evening Gutredge Caught a White Catfish, its eyes Small & Tale like that of a Dolfin." For such easy-going orthography there was no less a precedent than George Washington. Lewis Goodrich, a North Carolina Revolutionary soldier, was also Goodridge and Gutaridge to persons keeping army accounts.

The meaning usually given to Goodrich is "rich in Godliness." Yet an early definition of "good" was "gather." That which was gathered was "goods." So a Goodrich of the Saxon day in England may have been a notable accumulator of personal possessions rather than a man distinguished for sanctity and good works.

In the "Goodrich Memorial," a geneological work upon a New England family unrelated to the one herein dealt with (unless remotely), is a letter from one Judge Aaron Goodrich rhapsodizing upon having stood upon ground once oc-







Site of spring on Goodrich property in Blacksburg donated to public use by formal designation. See text.



# THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF HENRY THE SEVENTH



BY JOHN HALLAM, ESQ.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

LONDON: PRINTED BY J. JOHNSON, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD, 1795.

AND SOLD BY J. JOHNSON, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD, 1795.

AND BY J. JOHNSON, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD, 1795.

AND BY J. JOHNSON, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD, 1795.

AND BY J. JOHNSON, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD, 1795.

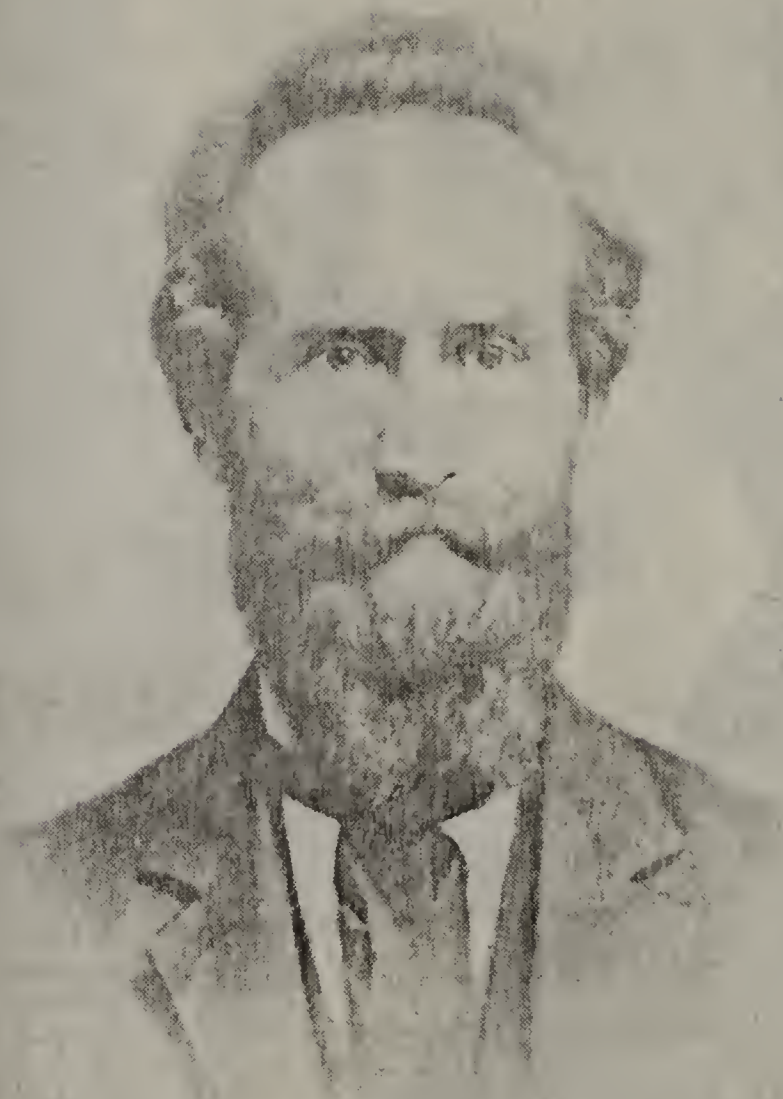
AND BY J. JOHNSON, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD, 1795.





Edmund Baldwin Goodrich's house in Blacksburg; birthplace of John Baldwin Goodrich.

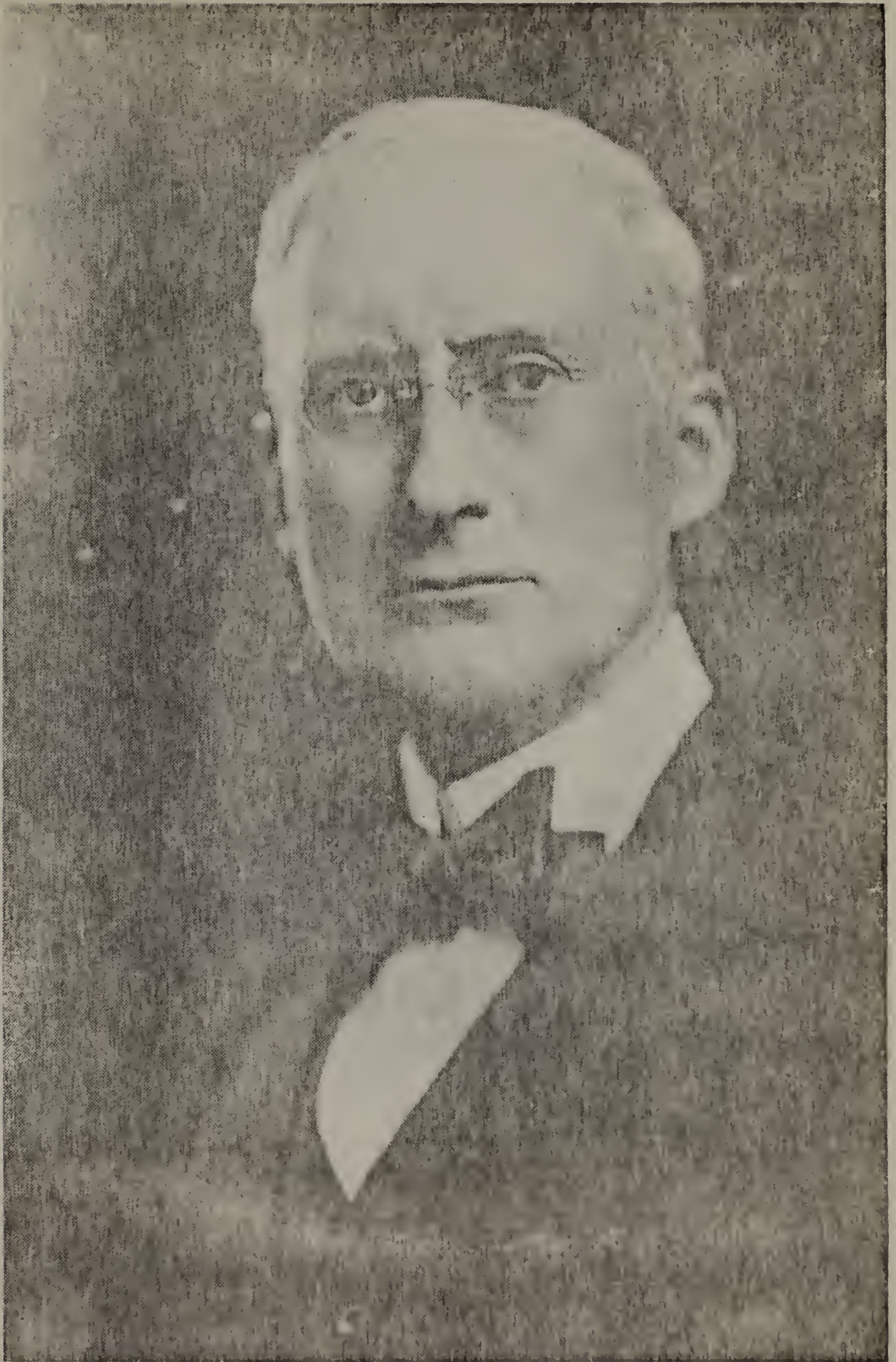




Doctor Calvin Gibson Goodrich







James Putman Goodrich, upon whose notes much of this family history is based. The photograph was taken at the time—the period of World War I—he was governor of Indiana.



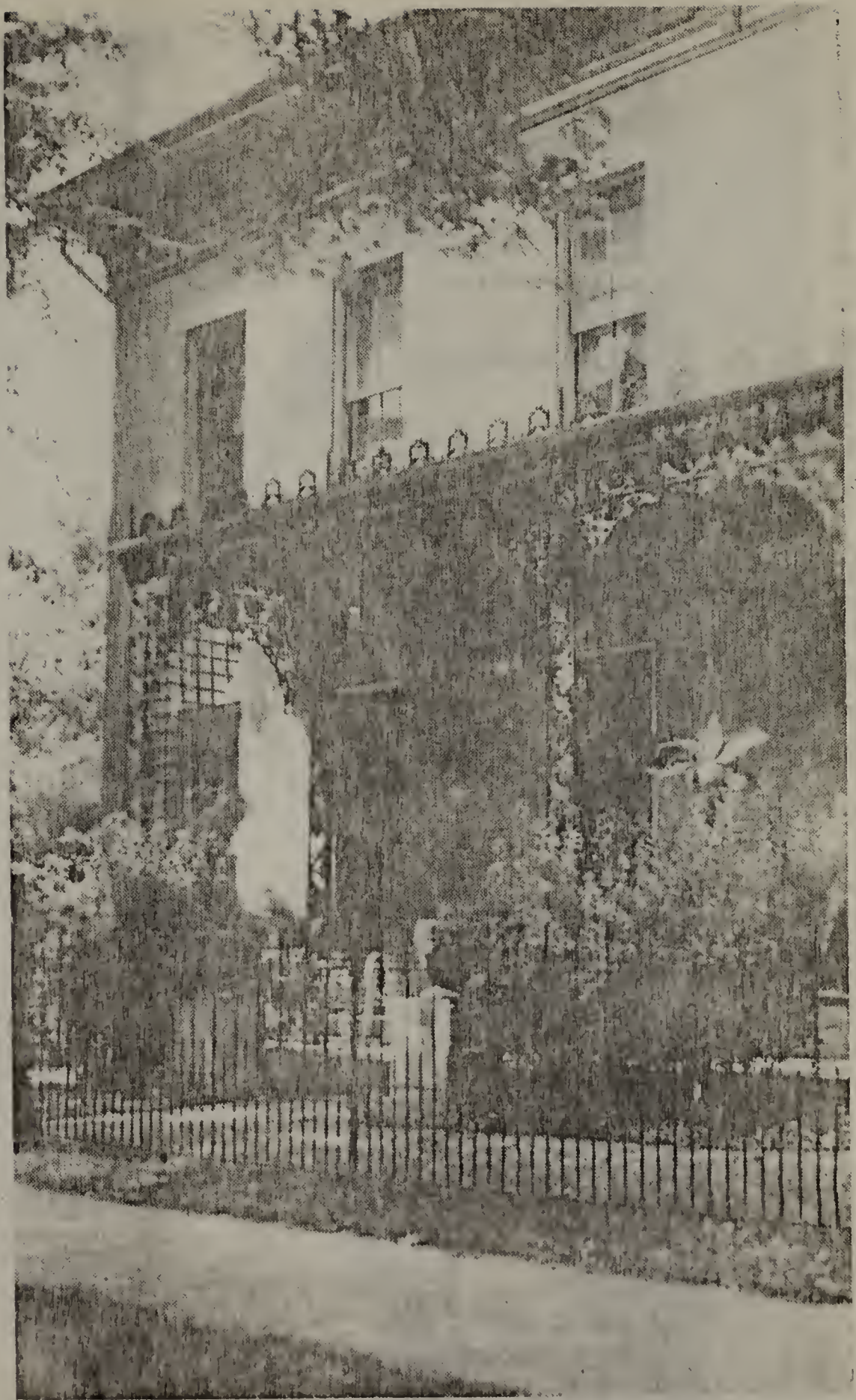




Elizo Beverly, the most articulate and humorous daughter of Rebecca Pearse Goodrich. In memory invariably spoken of as "Aunt."



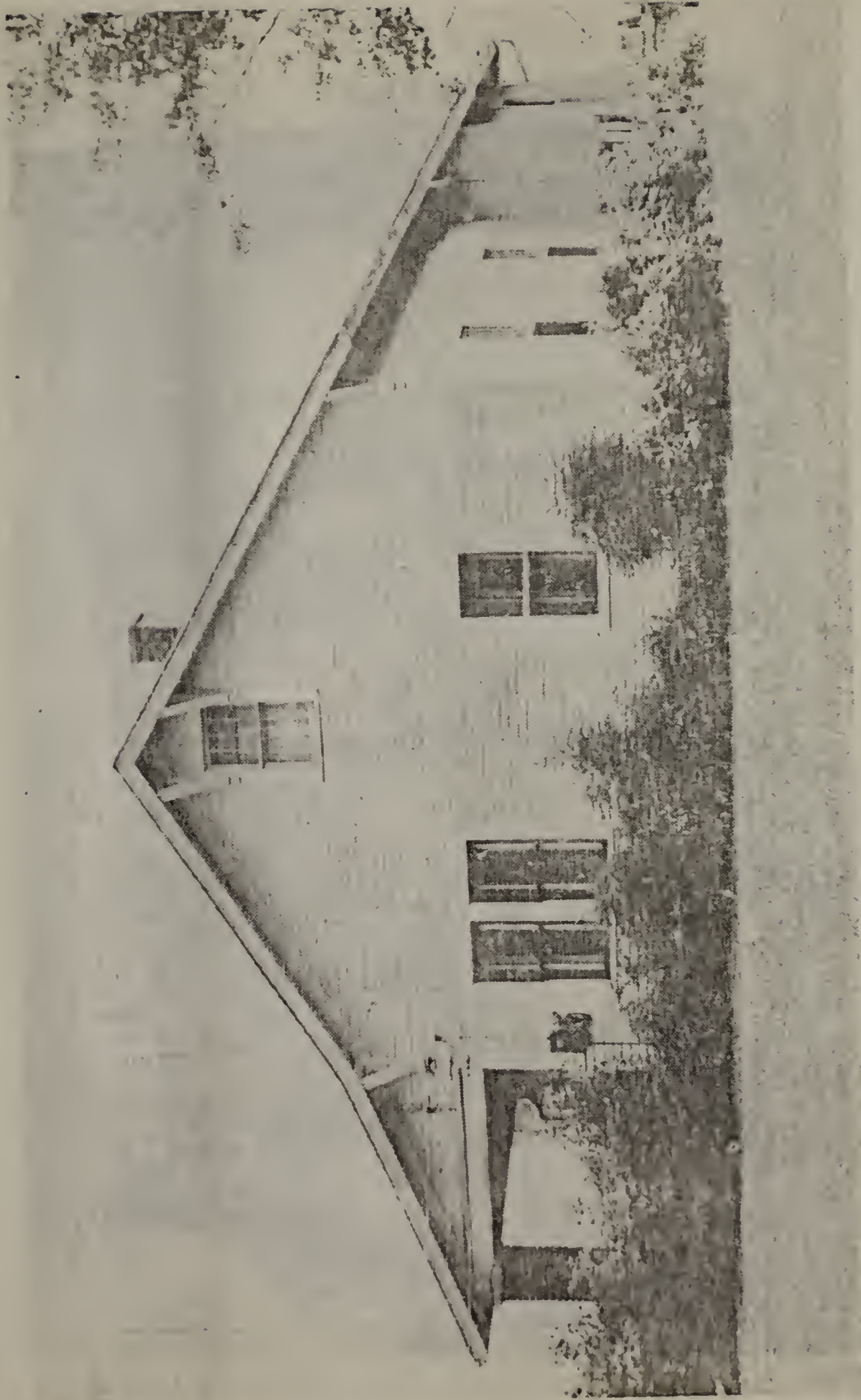




Winchester home of Carey Goodrich, designed and built by George Whitfield Goodrich. It was here that Rebecca Pearse Goodrich died.



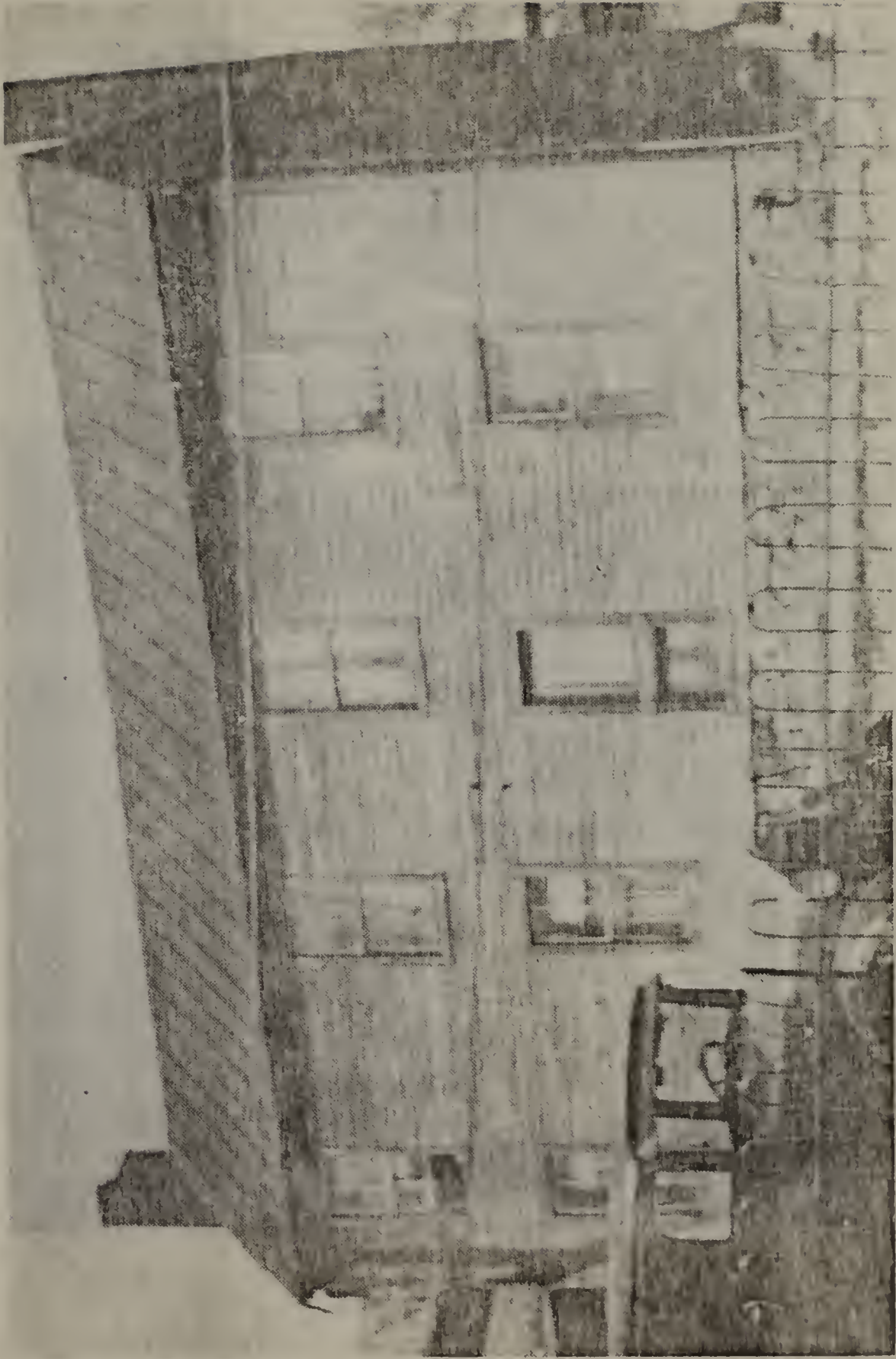




House on the farm bought by Edmund Goodrich on arrival in Indiana. It is altered from the structure as originally built, but contains part of the house as Edmund knew it.



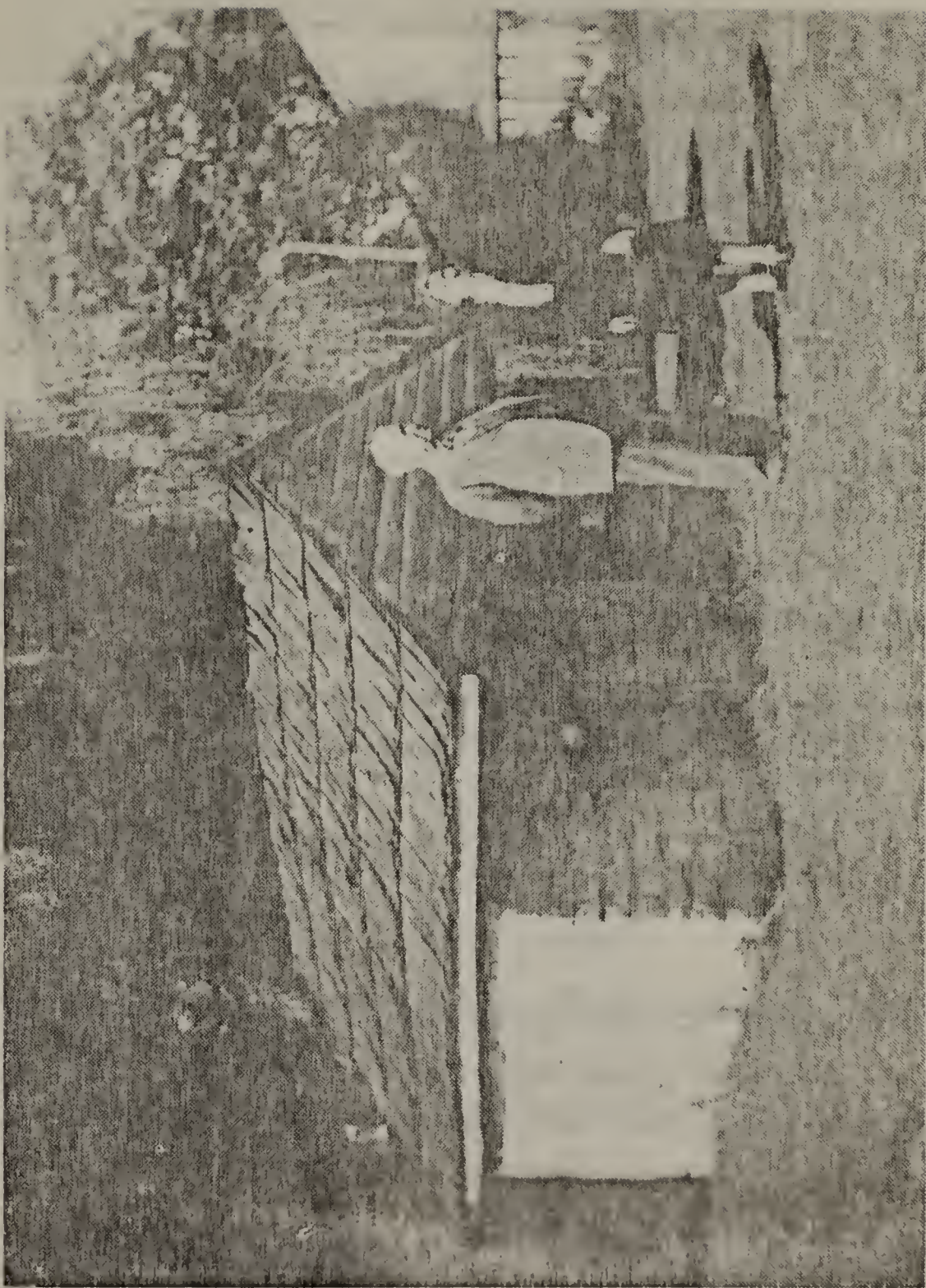




House of John Baldwin Goodrich in Blacksbury. Picture taken shortly before it was torn down. The architecture was typical of the region in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Observe that space was planned for large families.







Spring house immediately across road from Goodrich house in Blacksburg, and as regards flow of water corresponding to that of the Goodrich spring close by. The easy availability of water was the spur to town founding.





# Decimal Fractions

## Case 3.<sup>rd</sup>

Case 3.<sup>rd</sup> Admits of 3. Varieties. ....

Variety 1.<sup>st</sup> To find the value of a finite Decimal.

Rule 1.<sup>st</sup> Multiply the given Decimal by the Numerator of the parts of the next inferior denomination contained in an unit of the Integer. ....

Rule 2.<sup>nd</sup> Point off from the product as many figures to the right as there are figures in the given Decimal these on the left of the point are parts, and those on the right a decimal of those parts.

Rule 3.<sup>rd</sup> Reduce this new Decimal in the same manner to the next inferior denomination point off as before. Reduce again &c. till the Decimal places become ciphers or there be no denomination left for a Multiplier. Examples.

Ex 1.<sup>st</sup> Value 875 the value Decimal of a £.  $\frac{875}{2}$

$$\begin{array}{r} 875 \\ \times 17500 \\ \hline 66000 \end{array}$$

Ex 2.<sup>nd</sup> Value .06875 of a £.  $\frac{.06875}{12}$

$$\begin{array}{r} .06875 \\ \times 12 \\ \hline .825000 \\ \hline .825000 \end{array}$$

1.6 1/2 Answer

Variety 2.<sup>nd</sup> To value a decimal terminating in a Repetend.

Rule. Carry as 9 in the product of the repetend and when a cipher occurs in the right of the Multiplier annex the repetend for it in the product.

Ex 1.<sup>st</sup> Value 5510618

$$\begin{array}{r} 5510618 \\ \times 170 \\ \hline 93680506 \\ \hline 93680506 \\ \hline 93680506 \end{array}$$

17.076 Answer





# Division of Decimals

(19)

$$\begin{array}{r} 6.32 \overline{) 51.564} \\ \underline{31.936} \\ 19.628 \\ \underline{12.816} \\ 6.812 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 500.2312195 \overline{) 25293.86666} \\ \underline{500.462439} \\ 25293.86666 \\ \underline{25293.86666} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Rule 1. When a given Multiplier is found a Divisor that shall yield a Number equal to the product of that Multiplier.

Ex. 1. Find a Divisor whose Quotient arising from any Dividend shall be equal to the product of 25. Multiplied by the same Dividend.

Rule 2. When a given Divisor is found a Multiplier that with any Multiplier shall produce a Number equal to the product of the Multiplier and of the Divisor.

Ex. 2. Find a Multiplier whose product into any Multiplier shall be equal to the Quotient arising from the same Multiplier divided by 25.

25) 100 (4 Ans. For 3675700 x 25 = 86892500  
 and 3675700 x 75 = 86892500 Prod

Rule 3. When a given Divisor is found a Multiplier that with any Multiplier shall produce a Number equal to the product of the Multiplier and of the Divisor.

Ex. 3. Find a Multiplier whose product into any Multiplier shall be equal to the Quotient arising from the same Multiplier divided by 25.

25) 100 (4 Ans. For 3675700 x 75 = 86892500  
 and 3675700 x 25 = 86892500 Prod



cupied by his ancestors, the ground being Goodrich Castle in Herefordshire, England, near the Welch border. In order to learn whether in fact the castle was ever a Goodrich possession, correspondence was had with Sir Leonard Twiston-Davies of nearby Monmouth, an authority on the history of the region. He was at pains to trace the castle through the chronicles. "According to Robinson's 'Castles of Herefordshire,'" he writes, "Goodrich Castle may have been founded by Godric Mapsonne who is mentioned in Domesday Book as holding land in the adjoining parish." Godric here, it will be observed, is a given name, not a family one, and if the name of the stronghold was so derived it might by equal chance be William or Joseph or even Aaron castle, and still not point to a clan connection. As in the case of innumerable British place-names, the name of this seat has undergone changes through the centuries. Sir Leonard gives us these designations, with dates of their use:

Ecclesia Sancti Egidii de Castelle Godrici, 1144.

Ecclesia de Castie Godrici, 1291.

Ecclesia de Castro Godric, 1341.

Goderychescastell, 1372.

Goderichecastell, 1420.

Goderich, 1538.

Gotheridge, 1671.

An additional note of Sir Leonard's is that he could trace no Goodrichs in Herefordshire "from the very earliest times." How easily Americans can jump to false conclusions in considering English place-names may be illustrated by the fact that a Henry Grey named his estate Goodrich Court simply because of its being near the picturesque ruins of Goodrich Castle, and with no reference whatever to a family relationship. No more do Riverview or High Tor or Dropin or Suitsus over a gateway in America warrant one in believing these to be family names.

The Goodrich Court aforementioned has come recently





into English news as having been bought by an American "to be removed from its commanding position" and to be rebuilt in the United States. Its attraction for an American is not explained. Sir Leonard describes it as a "red sandstone sham gothic victorian erection of no architectural merit whatever."

The notion that Bishop Thomas Goodrich of the Sixteenth Century is an ancestor has to be dismissed along with the one about Goodrich Castle. Thomas was of Lincolnshire stock, and became royal chaplain to Henry VIII about 1530. He aided that monarch in the quarrels with Rome and the changes in bed-mates. In the division of spoils, he was made bishop of Ely. A translation of the Gospel of St. John for the revised New Testament, antedating the version sponsored by King James, was by his hand. Under Edward VI, Thomas was appointed a privy councilor, and then Lord High Chancellor. On the accession of Queen Mary, he conformed to the restored Roman faith, but lost all offices except the bishopric of Ely, and in the cathedral of this name he lies beneath a great marble figure supposedly in his image. If this is correct the bishop was somewhat austere, more strikingly imperious than humbly pious. The Encyclopedia Britannica quotes a description of him as "a busy, secular, spirited man." To have sprung from such loins would unquestionably be pleasant to family pride, but it would involve, it is not to be forgotten, the acceptance of illegitimacy. The right in Thomas' time to marry was denied both to Roman and Anglican churchmen.

Probably every American family of the old stock has a tradition of magnificence that has tended to be elaborated as it passed from elders to children. That one's distant forebears were nobles, if not kings—concerned with earth-shaking doings and affluent far beyond the common level—is more agreeable to believe than that one's remote progenitors were lowly folk, menials, illiterates. It is somewhat like





the satisfaction taken in owning furs and jewels. The senior author of this relation was told in his youth that he was a descendant of the North England Percys whose power over men and events in Mediaeval times was regal. An aunt of the younger author entertained the belief that the family dated back to King Alfred and had a leading part in that liege lord's militant activities. This legend resembles that in some Irish genealogies which start off with Adam and Eve. Where and how these presumptions begin no one, of course, knows. Like rumor in war days they sprout and flower in the air. In an earlier part of this work it has been shown that, allowing generously for time, all families dating from American colonial periods may be found to be related to one another. By so much is the average claim to high descent justified.

The Virginian persausion of cavalier origins, meaning descent from refugees of the losing side of the English civil war of 1642-46, has been the subject both of defense and ridicule. The tradition received the support of P. A. Bruce, "Social Life in Virginia in the Seventeenth Century," as recently as 1907. In the course of his argument he says that "one of the most prominent families of Lower Norfolk was the Gutteriche or Goodrich." He links the family with prominent Yorkshire stock, and places it in this country in the "higher planting class" to which he grants the blood of nobility. Nevertheless, only forty-two Virginian families of the Seventeenth Century appear in a list of those entitled to bear coats-of-arms. The name of Goodrich is not among them. So if any family of the name could boast the dignity of superior rank it was as, say, younger sons of an exalted house, or of descendants thereof. Still, there is no such evidence in the records. The claims, assumptions or pretensions, whatever the naive traditions may be called, are summed up satirically by Fairfax Harrison in "The Virginia Carys." "They shared a common foible, supported by mu-





tual admission," he wrote, "that they were all conduits of the oldest and purest blood of England." It does not do to delve too deeply into what purity in the case consists of unless one is prepared to face the fact that an approximation of early European nobility is the modern American gangster.

A part of the immigration into Virginia consisted of what were styled indentured servants or redemptionists. These were persons of the British Islands, English, Welch and Irish mainly of North Ireland, who "sold" themselves to shipowners or shipmasters in return for their passage to the New World. The shipmasters in turn "sold" them to established settlers. Under his contract the redemptionist was bound to his purchaser for a period of years, usually four. He could not leave the plantation without permission, or if bound to a merchant, that merchant's house or establishment, day or night; could not marry, and specifically was subject to severe punishment for fornication. He must be obedient in all matters. He was to receive "competent meat, drink, apparel, washing and lodging." The "mystery, art and occupation of planter" must be taught him. At the end of his services, he was to receive fifty acres of land, certain farm implements, sometimes farm animals, and the means by which to build a house. Bristol in western England appears to have been the chief port of embarkation for indentured servants. Here they gathered, signed their contracts, were assigned ships and committed their lives and fortunes to the winds of the sea.

A shipload of such passengers might be taken from port to port of the east coast in quest of buyers. Naturally, the strong of arm were disposed of first, the weak slowly if at all. Men trained to trades, carpenters, masons, workers in metals, hair-dressers, tailors and farm hands of experience, commanded premiums as a matter of course. Eighteen thousand immigrants of the kind over whom the London Company exercised some control were brought to Virginia in





the early years of settlement. At the end of ten years, 10,500 had fulfilled their contracts, and been released. The 7500 remaining were either still serving out their time as late arrivals or had died. Death, in fact, carried away alarming numbers. Masters put them into the hot, malarial fields before allowing a period for "seasoning." A tough-fibred Briton, Scot or Irishman alone was altogether immune to the heat and disease. The high sickness and death rate among redemptionists was one of the factors encouraging the institution of negro slavery. The blacks, if they survived the long voyage from Africa, the crowded vessels and poor fare aboard them, were, from the planters' standpoint, better labor than the indentured, time-limited white servants.

We have been unable to find the name of any Goodrich who, beyond question, was a redemptionist. These Virginia instances do have that appearance:

Peter Guttridge, 1648; passage paid by John Seward, Isle of Wight County.

Henry Guttridge, 1653; passage paid by Thomas Griffin, Lancaster County.

Ann Goodridge, 1637; brought in by Francis Fowler, James City County.

A fourth record seems to cast doubt on the foregoing as truly representing cases of indentural contract, to wit, Ann and Thomas Goodrich, mentioned as brought in by Peter Saxon, 1652. For a Thomas Goodrich, having a wife Anne, was already a commissioner of the court of Lower Norfolk, a landowner of some extensiveness, and the possessor of negro slaves. It may be that in all four incidents some one was merely sponsoring immigration or landing—in a way of speaking, "going on their paper." Exact information lacking, the matter has to be left to puzzle over with small possibility of ever being answered.

It has been written that certain redemptionists became wealthy and influential members of the Virginia colony. But





it is clear that circumstances were against the majority of immigrants rising to prominence whatever, in the course of the generations, their descendants may have done in that direction. Social position counted in Virginia in its first two centuries quite as much as it did in England. The governing class was made up of families owning thousands of acres of land, not simply fifty or a hundred. William Byrd, for example, had 180,000 acres. What came to be called the "tobacco aristocracy" not merely skimmed off the cream of riches, but also made the laws of the colony to suit its economy, administered those laws, acted as vestrymen of the state church and perhaps named the church's shepherds. A land aristocracy is probably the hardest in the world to break into, as in an agricultural commonwealth it is the most difficult with which to compete. Reference need only be made to the southern United States previous to the Civil War.

Seventeenth and Eighteenth century records show Goodrichs to have been landowners in amounts quite beyond those which indentured servants could acquire short of miraculous good fortune. They are shown to have been members of legislative bodies, holders of civil administrative offices, officers of colonial troops, vestrymen. Two and maybe more were involved in the Bacon's Rebellion, a revolt by land proprietors and mostly in their interest. Certain Goodrichs were neighbors and associates of William Byrd, who socially was a sort of viceroy and power in politics. Without intention to disparage the class, we may take it very much for granted that the immigrant Goodrichs of Virginia were not redemptionists. It is a reasonable inference that they came in with sufficient capital to become landowners almost immediately. They may have been under the wing of those representatives of the crown who were enabled to distribute land patents at their pleasure. There may have been family connections, even mere neighborhood connec-



tions, of high usefulness. None of these aids to getting ahead in the new country would, or could, be spread on the records. So if they existed we have no clue to them today.

Mention has been made of the colonial population of a million by 1751, that is, one hundred and forty-four years after the founding of Jamestown, the first English settlement to take root. This population, it must be emphasized, covered the whole of the Atlantic shore under British rule, from New England to the indefinite southern border of Georgia. Indians were excepted in the count, perhaps sometimes also the Negro bondsmen. Virginia had five thousand white inhabitants in 1634, fifteen thousand whites and two hundred slaves in 1649. Thus, in forty-two years the colony had a population that was probably less than that of the average county seat of the United States of these times. The fact of circumscribed habitation may be accented by reciting that just one more than five hundred land patents was issued in Virginia between 1623 and 1637; again, that a hundred years later William Byrd was selling land in one hundred acre tracts for from fifteen to twenty-five dollars. (If Byrd's pounds were colonial pounds, then his prices were about half of those given.) History records an early transfer of two thousand acres in York County for twenty pence per acre. Though this paragraph may seem to wander from the theme of the narrative the authors consider it just as well that readers should understand how relatively few were Virginia's residents for a very long time, how faltering was the invasion of the upland wilderness.





## VIII

The earliest Goodrichs in Virginia (so far as the records show) came from Yorkshire in 1635. They constituted a party led by John Goodrich, accompanied by his sons Henry, Richard, John and William, the order probably being in that of their ages. According to genealogists who supplied Governor James P. Goodrich with information, they may have been descendants of a Richard Goodrich, known to have been high-sheriff of York in 1591, a little more than forty years before the immigration.

Now it appears of significance that in 1904 Minnie Goodrich, daughter of George Whitfield Goodrich, wrote the junior author with quite positiveness that the Virginian Goodrichs originated in Yorkshire. She went farther. She named the village whence they came. This was Knaresborough. With this as a lead, the junior author, being in England, visited the hamlet. He found, as he remembers it, a tombstone with the name Goodrick on it, and learned that Goodrichs or Goodricks had held property nearby up to about the end of the first quarter of the 1800's. We may safely assume that Minnie Goodrich was told of the Yorkshire connection by her father, no other source being likely. In him, the tradition may have persisted as such fragments of family history do. Yorkshire, it is known, was one of the three English areas most largely represented in New England, and this may well have been so in the case of Virginia since emigration in the Seventeenth Century moved in waves. The agitation or restlessness or sense of adventure which persuades people to migrate is akin to a religious revival, affecting one neighbor after another, involving entire districts. Modern examples are the migrations out of Ireland, the peopling of the northern Middle West by folk of New England and upper New York state—whole villages being all but deserted—and the covered wagon trek into the





trans-Missouri plains.

A brief account of Knaresborough may be in order. It is a very old town lying at the top of a gorge through which a small river winds on a broad curve. The site must have been selected for its value as a defense, for high above the stream are ruins of a castle of once massive walls. A little way from the ruins is a church of Norman architecture, the tower of which retains the stains where endeavor was made to smoke out soldiery that had taken refuge there. The churchyard has the gravestones the dates upon which impress Americans with their unfamiliar age. Knaresborough's chief showplace is the home of Mother Shipton, the woman who made somewhat significant prophecies in the form of doggerel. Eugene Aram, too, was either of local origin or carried out his crimes there, these being startling enough to prompt Thomas Hood to write a poem about them and Bulwer-Lytton to spawn a novel. The town, lying as it does on one side of the main traffic, has changed little in the course of time, and we may suppose it to have been very much in 1600's as when seen in 1904 and 1938. A few miles east is Goldsboro, of minute size, and once a dependency of a manor supposed to have been occupied by a family of Goodrichs, or Goodricks. A part of the establishment is reputed to have been built by the Knights Templar, not later than 1300. It may be guessed then that even for Europe the house rightly could be termed venerable.

Of the five Yorkshire Goodrichs, traces were left by John the younger. The absence of the names of the father and three of his sons cannot be taken to mean that they returned to England, a voyage as daring and tedious at the time nearly as much as was Columbus' to the Bahamas, or that they early fell victim to New World diseases, but rather that account of them was lost in the bonfire destruction of records which took place during the War of the Rebellion. John the son settled in Isle of Wight County in 1638. He is known to

The first of these was the discovery of gold in California in 1848. This discovery led to a great influx of people to California, and the state became a great center of population. The second was the discovery of gold in Nevada in 1859. This discovery led to a great influx of people to Nevada, and the state became a great center of population. The third was the discovery of gold in Colorado in 1859. This discovery led to a great influx of people to Colorado, and the state became a great center of population. The fourth was the discovery of gold in Idaho in 1860. This discovery led to a great influx of people to Idaho, and the state became a great center of population. The fifth was the discovery of gold in Montana in 1862. This discovery led to a great influx of people to Montana, and the state became a great center of population. The sixth was the discovery of gold in Wyoming in 1869. This discovery led to a great influx of people to Wyoming, and the state became a great center of population. The seventh was the discovery of gold in Utah in 1871. This discovery led to a great influx of people to Utah, and the state became a great center of population. The eighth was the discovery of gold in Arizona in 1873. This discovery led to a great influx of people to Arizona, and the state became a great center of population. The ninth was the discovery of gold in New Mexico in 1874. This discovery led to a great influx of people to New Mexico, and the state became a great center of population. The tenth was the discovery of gold in Texas in 1875. This discovery led to a great influx of people to Texas, and the state became a great center of population.

have then been twenty years of age. Following this John were other Johns in the county. The relationship one with another might be impossible for even a genealogist of high surmising power to disentangle. So it seems best to repeat chronologically what we have of the Goodrichs of the county, beginning with:

1652—John, born this year. He had a "son or grandson" John, who had for son John the Tory merchant of Norfolk (later to be dealt with) besides one Edward, who served with the Continental Army of the Revolution.

1665—Captain John Goodrich of the Virginia militia. He bought one hundred acres of land of John Day, Henry Baker and ----- Bayton for 4300 pounds of tobacco. Rating tobacco as worth locally two cents a pound (see later note), the land cost Captain John less than a dollar an acre, which can be compared with the long-standing United States government price of \$1.25. Some multiplication is required to adjust the rate with modern values of money.

1688—Books of a Captain Goodrich were appraised, apparently upon his death, as worth seven hundred pounds of tobacco. According to P. A. Bruce, "Institutional History of Virginia," 1910, an appraisement at five hundred pounds of tobacco argued many books. Taking the two cents per pound rate and assuming the value of colonial money to be five times that of this period, Captain Goodrich had seventy dollars tied up in books.

1689—John Goodrich died April 9, this year, aged 37. Probably not captain. (See foregoing note.)

1691—A Captain John Goodrich was named a county justice of the peace in February this year. (We are now deeper in the genealogical morass.)

1694—John Goodrich as one of three justices of the peace fined a Quaker for holding services.

1695—John Goodrich died.

1696—Captain John Goodrich's will was proved August





10. He had sons George and John, daughters Honour, Elizabeth, Constancy and Mary. To each daughter was left twenty shillings for a wedding ring. Inasmuch as the law of primogeniture, the right of the eldest son to inherit a parent's property to the exclusion of other children, prevailed in this period in Virginia, it may be presumed that the son George came into Captain John's lands without that being detailed specifically in the will.

1697—Anne, wife of Captain Goodrich, married Captain Robert Kae. Circumstances made it of importance for colonial widows to contract marriage for the protection afforded by a master of the house and a man to conduct business, govern slaves if any, and pursue the common aim of enlarging upon possessions. It was not felt necessary to teach females to read and write, much less to provide them with a thorough education. Hence men dominated in matters aside from household affairs, and to a degree in these.

1698—Will of John Goodrich, Sr., proved June 9. It named sons Charles and John. It expressed the desire for "my sd. wife to put" John "to schoole as he shall be capable." The will was signed with an "X." We are here apparently among other Johns than the two in the item under date of 1696.

1704—Mrs. Rebecca Goodrich, relict of John Goodrich, married Thomas Harebottle.

1704—Charles Goodrich mentioned as owner of eighty acres of land. Probably in addition to other acreage.

1721—March 10. Mary born to John and Mary Goodrich. In another place the date is recorded as March 24, 1725.

1737—A John Goodrich was vestryman in Newport Parish, Isle of Wight County.

1751—In the will of Joseph Bridger, John Goodrich is set down as a son-in-law. Going back fifty-seven years we have the item that John Goodrich and Samuel Bridger, justices,





were associated in the punishment of a Quaker.

1786—James Clayton married Harby Goodrich, December 30. Note that this was after the close of the revolutionary war.

1788—December 20, John Goodrich took over the office of justice of the peace.

1795—Charles and Shadrack Goodrich served as appraisers in a land transfer.

1800—John Goodrich served as commissioner for supervising the presidential election in the county; also as commissioner to arrange for the erection of a courthouse and jail.

1803—John Goodrich was chosen to represent the counties of Isle, of Wight, Prince George and Surry in the state general assembly.

To add to the confusion of Johns of Isle of Wight we find, no date given, that John I. Goodrich, aged 88, made a deposition in regard to church lands.

One of the series of Johns, no more than named under date of 1652 above, shifted down the James River to Portsmouth and Norfolk, and there became a merchant, at the same time either holding to plantations in Isle of Wight County and the neighboring county of Nansemond, or acquiring them in his affluence. He owned ships and warehouses, and would seem to have gone on trading voyages since in one place he is listed as a "mariner." His business extended to Europe and to the West Indies. T. J. Wertenbaker, "Norfolk, Historic Southern Port," 1931, has described him as among the leading commercial masters of the colonial South. He married Margaret, daughter of William Harwood.

During the disturbances preceding the Revolution, one Captain J. Morgan wrote to Francis Fauquier, looking out for British governmental interests at Annapolis, Maryland,



that Norfolk was making unfriendly gestures toward the crown. Nevertheless, he indicated, all the principal citizens were loyal "except it be Mr. John Goodrich of Portsmouth who seems to me as troublesome as you will find . . ." Morgan wrote in 1766. We may guess that the parliamentary trading restrictions established over America were damaging Goodrich's affairs, or threatening them. Nine years later, the revolutionary Committee of Safety placed money in Goodrich's hands for the importation of gunpowder, obtainable at Antigua Island in the Leewards. Trouble developed with Lord Dunmore over it, and that was followed by trouble between the committee and Goodrich. It was a complaint of Goodrich's that he was not properly reimbursed for his costs. The committee, for its part, charged him with buying supplies for Dunmore and altering the marks on British-made linens so that he could sell them as Dutch. In this same summer, John Goodrich, Junior, sent out a warning about military action that Dunmore was on the point of taking. "I am informed this morning," the junior John Goodrich wrote, "That the (Governor) has got 13 Fieldpeaces fitted up & on board of his ship & that he intends to W'msburg (Williamsburg, the capital) with them, I think it Highly Necessary that the Volunteers at the place Should (be) Informed of it as they may be in Readiness to Receive his Lordship."

Whatever the quarrel between John Goodrich and the Virginia leaders of the revolution, no open break had yet occurred.

The record becomes involved as the weeks go on. Passions no doubt ran high not only as between the British and American contestants, but also between persons and factions within the revolutionary party. Neighbor was suspicious of neighbor. Then the British fleet bombarded Norfolk. A mob, assuming Goodrich to be a Tory, burned his house. Margaret took refuge on a vessel in the harbor.





There was disorder and looting. According to papers of the Committee of Safety deposited at Williamsburg, Mrs. Margaret Goodrich and son Bridges (note the resemblance of this name to "Bridger," 1751) were granted permission on February 15, 1776, to leave the colony with "such slaves of her husband, John Goodrich the Elder, as have been usually employed as domestic servants." Toward the end of 1776, the committee ordered that estates of John Goodrich be seized and administered "for Mrs. Goodrich's accounting for money rec'd of the Treasurer for the purchase of Powder." A few days later, the son William was cited on the charge of taking slaves from his father's Isle of Wight County plantation "with the assistance of aid from Lord Dunmore's fleet." While still the committee was buying extensively of the Goodrich company, the elder John was seized on one of his vessels, loaded with irons, thrown into the damp hold of the ship and denied blankets—all because of suspicion that privately he was dealing with Dunmore, John Goodrich, Junior, was declared a "deserter," and it would appear that he was placed in jail, as was his father and four of the father's slaves. About this time, Colonel Landon Carter set down in his diary: "It seems old Goodrich, George Blair and 15 or 16 men are taken and in Halifax gaol; 200 men wanted the 27th ult to fetch him to Williamsburg. But why? The Committee of Safety had the Goodriches before them three times and discharged them. Queer judges of our safety."

The question arising as to which Halifax is meant here, that of Virginia or the one in North Carolina, correspondence was had with Mr. Christopher Crittenden, of the State Department of Archives and History at Raleigh. He answered that "the Halifax in which you are interested was almost certainly in North Carolina, the seat of the county of the same name. After the defeat of the Tories at Moores Creek Bridge in February, 1776, many of them were im-





prisoned in Halifax." The transfer from Norfolk could have been made overland, a distance of about fifty miles, yet quite as likely by water. Imprisonment at Halifax may have applied only to "old Goodrich" inasmuch as in June, 1776, a bond was demanded of John Goodrich, Junior, to observe the laws of the colony as the revolutionists had altered them. Brought before the committee, he refused to take the oath of allegiance, "whereupon it is ordered that the said John Goodrich jn'r be forthwith disarmed."

In October, 1777, John Goodrich, the Elder, was making formal complaint that he had been confined for eighteen months, "loaded with irons too heavy to bear." A further protest of his was that commissioners had so managed property in their charge that Margaret, his wife, had been brought "nearly to penury."

Sight for a time is lost of John and his son John, but in some way or another a son Bartlett got into the English lines and was issued letters of marque. As a privateer he took numbers of Yankee vessels off Virginia capes. On March 20, 1781, Captain W. Thomas, in the British service at Annapolis, wrote to Messrs. Goodrich and Mackey, "With this we send you two small schooners with Oats, which I suppose the Army is in want of; I beg you will do the best you can for us by them. Capt. Rogers, who was in the capture, joins with Compliments & Respects to you. The Rebell Army are landed, and pitched their Tents in sight of us.

"P. S.—We hear that Mr. Goodrick's Boat has made a Considerable seizure of goods, plate &c: from Loyds (sic) on the Eastern Shore."

Cornwallis' army was forced into surrender at Yorktown in October of this year, and the war virtually was over. A note has been come upon to the effect that John Goodrich shortly afterward asked permission to settle in Newport, Rhode Island. He would, he said, bring "twenty sailes of



vessels to the port." The right was refused. Governor Thomas Nelson was appealed to in May, 1783, by "Ed." Harwood to allow "his half-brother, John Goodrich, to return to Virginia," without success. The family took refuge in Topsham, Devon, south England. A vault in a church there records the deaths of "John Goodrich Esqr, a native of Virginia, 1785; Margaret, his wife, April, 1810; James Goodrich, May, 1787, aged 23; Samuel Goodrich, November, 1836, aged 47; Sarah, Samuel's wife, April 20, 1854, aged 65." Relationships here are not clear, and can only be guessed.

Supporting the tales of divisions in families during the Revolution is the fact that Edward Goodrich, brother of the John of the story and resident of Isle of Wight County, was a first lieutenant of the Fourth Virginia Regiment for three years.





## IX

More or less in an offhand manner, a genealogist has made the statement that two families of Goodrichs were in Virginia in the Seventeenth Century—one of Isle of Wight County and the other of Rappahannock. He had, we are certain, nothing to go upon except guesswork, the records lending no support. Yet if usages in baptismal names can be taken as clues or hints or arguments, the genealogist was right. Those of Rappahannock County had not the repetitiousness of the ones of Isle of Wight. In the story of the Rappahannock group is only one John, in its employ and possibly not a relative.

The court of Lower Norfolk on June 17, 1652, certified to the "importation of Thomas Goodrich has wife Anne and seven negroes and four other persons," as though they were immigrants. The fact was that Thomas as has been told, was already a commissioner of the court. As such an officer he acted in January, 1652, in a case involving theft. Not long after the landing mentioned he sat in the case of the seizure of a Dutch vessel for engaging in trade with Virginia illegally. So we may assume that he had simply been upon a journey when he came ashore in June. He is mentioned in 1653 as a major of militia, but oddly, only as captain when in November, 1654, he was overseer for the will of William Vincent, merchant. His name was appended as witness to the will of Richard Starrel, or Starnell, October 3, 1655. Still earlier, 1653, he and his wife Anne sold 350 acres of land on Elizabeth River, called the "Southerne Plantation" to Peter Saxon, who had something to do with the "importation" described. Anne was then credited with the ownership of five slaves.

Rappahannock County was organized in 1656, with Thomas Goodrich one of its commissioners. The county has shrunk greatly since then. In fact, what was alone Rappa-





hannock in 1656 consists today of about ten counties. It lay so far north and northwest of the settlements on the James as to be rated a colonial frontier. Thomas became a notable absorber of landed property. He bought five hundred acres on Rappahannock River in 1657. By patent and by further purchase, he acquired five thousand acres or thereabouts. He was justice of his county in 1656, that is, on its organization, and perhaps automatically. We discover Jabitha Brown petitioning the "Governor and Capt. Gen. of Virginia" to assess damages "for the detention of two negroes for one year by Col. Thos. Goodrich." In 1661, he was summoned to appear at "James Cittie" to answer complaint of the "King of the Mattapory Indians" that Goodrich caused the burning of the king's "English house."

Records of 1675 refer to a letter from Thomas that Indians had burned his houses, robbed his wife and family and "threatened to hang himself if taken." The incident was one of the preliminaries to the rebellion of 1675 against Governor Berkeley's administration. Residents of outlying tracts, planters and merchants, had a long list of grievances, one of them being the failure of the governor to proceed against Indian raiders. A reason given for withholding the protection was that the governor enjoyed a partial monopoly of the trade in furs, and stood to lose it in case the Indians were driven back into the mountains. The charge is plausible inasmuch as colonial governorships were assumed openly to be grants for personal enrichment. Nathaniel Bacon's application for a commission to punish the Indians after two of his overseers had been murdered was denied. He ignored the refusal. He enlisted a force of volunteers, lay a heavy hand on Indian villages, and in one instance faced Berkeley with his "army." Before this bombilating war of wills and words was at the stage of negotiation and treaty, Bacon died of malaria. The rebellion collapsed for want of a determined leader. Berkeley took revenge. He confiscated



property. He assessed fines and did a brisk business with the gallows. Colonel Thomas Goodrich and his son Benjamin, at least sympathizers of the uprising, escaped the governor's full resentment. Nevertheless, he caused them to feel the weight of his hand.

The Grand Assembly, meeting February 24, 1677, passed an Act of Indemnities and Free Pardons. It was directed that Thomas and Benjamin Goodrich be relieved of any forfeiture of estates, they with others, "but that they and every one of them shall suffer and undergo such paines, penalties and puishments not extending to life etc." as should be commanded. This was that "Thomas Goodrich doe with a rope about his neck on his knees, begg his life of the governor and council, and in a like posture acknowledge his crimes of rebellion and treason in Rappahannock County court, and that he shall be fined to the kings majestie fifty thousand pounds of merchantable tobacco . . . ." Submission was made at Garet. A string about Thomas' neck was accepted as symbolizing the rope. Whether the kneeling, praying for the governor's forgiveness and confessing to treason were similar token gestures was not committed to paper though we may believe they were since the court was within Goodrich's sphere of influence and power. It is not likely, however, that a substitute of no value was allowed to take the place of the "fifty thousand pounds of merchantable tobacco." Berkeley had an eye for assets of worth.

On receiving the report of Bacon's Rebellion, King Charles II is said to have remarked that his Virginian governor had hanged more persons than he himself had for the murder of his father.

Thomas Goodrich died in 1679. His will mentioned sons Benjamin, Joseph, Charles and Peter; daughters Anne and Katherine.

The General Assembly of 1680, deciding that "the greate necessity, usefulness, and advantages of cohabitation" made





official ports of entry and lading vital, named nineteen such places, one for each of the then existing counties. Tappahannock was selected as port for Rappahannock County. Planters whose private wharfs were thus closed to their convenience made such a protest that Charles II countermanded the act. However, it was renewed in 1681. For the Rappahannock port, Benjamin Goodrich gave fifty acres of land. The spot was known as Hobb's Hole. It was laid out as New Plymouth. The name was altered to Tappahannock. But as late as 1785, an English visitor was speaking of it as Hobb's Hole. Benjamin may have been the man of this name who appears in Middlesex County records as the county is now constituted. It lies at the mouth of Rappahannock River. A note of 1704 spoke of him as one of "Bacon's Men," and owner of local land. In militia accounts of this county, John Gutteridge and John Goodridge—as though they were two—were named as "thought of Sufficient Abbilittes to find a Man, Horse and Armer."

The year that ports of entry were established, Benjamin Goodrich sold to Edward Hill his rights in a patent to 4626 acres of land. This was in present-day Essex County, and Tappahannock is its county seat. Also owned by Benjamin were two hundred acres on Pisontaway Creek which again is within the borders of what is now Essex County. In a 1716 description of the tract it is located as "formerly known by the name of Goodriches land." Benjamin died in 1703. He is "gent." in the records. The term at the period had social implications and meant, for one thing, that a person so designated did not work with his hands.

Joseph Goodrich, the second son, acknowledged the receipt of a share in the estate of his father Thomas, January 26, 1680. He married into the "Danby family of Yorkshire," and named a son Danby. Relationship was formed by this Danby or by another son of Joseph's—the records are confusing—by marriage into the Culpepper family. Anne





Culpepper was something of a social autocrat in Virginia of her day. A deed signed by Joseph Goodrich, Gent., and Francella, his wife, is dated January 22, 1685.

In 1681, Thomas Goodrich's daughter Anne married John Lightfoot of Charles City County, a landowner and a Virginian of wealth and influence. Issue were Goodrich, Sherwood, Thomas and Alice. Goodrich Lightfoot is known to colonial history as a holder of county offices, a member of the General Assembly and a vestryman, lacking apparently only military title. Anne died in 1707. Under date of September 23, 1712, William Byrd noted in his diary that he had paid a visit to Goodrich Lightfoot in New Kent County. If this is not an error of location, Lightfoot had property including a mansion in New Kent as well as in Charles City County.

Of Thomas Goodrich's children, Charles, Peter and Katherine, nothing is known beyond their names.

Records exist of the marriage of Eliza Goodrich to William Wilson in 1728, of Agatha Wells Goodrich in 1767 to Robert Shadden, both in Norfolk County. In 1823 in the same county was an Elijah Goodridge. The family connections of the three are unknown.



## X

Considering that Jamestown was the first settlement in British North America that was successful, that it was the seat of Virginian government until the removal of the capital to the more healthful and convenient Williamsburg, and that at its wharves were the disembarkments of immigrants for many years—after all this, it is strange that Goodrichs appear as little as they do in the records of the port. This may be, for one thing, because they were inconspicuous components of a crowd of newcomers. Then, too, there is the loss of public records that was suffered.

The first Goodrich to receive mention in existing James City County records was named Benjamin. He was a justice of the peace in and about 1685. He owned 1650 acres of county lands. In the "Secret Diary of William Byrd of Westover, 1709-1712," note was made of the death of Benjamin in April, 1710, from a "violent distemper" that was sweeping through Tidewater Virginia. The notation would not have been made, of course, had not Benjamin been on terms of social equality with Byrd, who was a stickler for the colonial caste system. Two days before his death, said the diaryist, Benjamin had been in sound health. He is not to be confused with the Rappahannock Benjamin Goodrich, who died in 1703. Children of the James City County Benjamin were Robert, Anne and Elizabeth. In December, 1714, a patent for 170 acres was issued Robert; in August 1720, one for 192 acres. He was holding the office of sheriff in 1726, and in 1737, he was justice of the peace, as had been his father. An item, lacking date, relates that Robert "prays" for a patent to "escheated lands of John Smith, Deccd."

Bordering on James City County up the river was the county of Charles City. We have told that Anne, daughter of Thomas Goodrich of Rappahannock was married to John





Lightfoot of this county and bore to him Goodrich Lightfoot. A Captain Charles Goodrich was justice of a court which sat at Westover from 1696 to 1702, and in every likelihood longer. Still earlier, he was appointed to the General Assembly, and his name appears as a member of the body for the session 1696-97. His title no doubt was of the colonial militia. Westover is particularly famous as the home of William Byrd, much less so as the birthplace of William Henry Harrison, ninth president of the United States. In February, 1710, the year of the above Benjamin Goodrich's death, Byrd wrote down that Henry Goodrich "came over" to learn French. No guess can be ventured as to who Henry was and in what county he lived. "Came over" may have been across the James River or across lots. In 1666, forty-four years previously, a Henry Goodrich of equal vagueness to us, was summoned to appear "before the Gov. and Council as a witness"—the cause not specified. Probably this is the Henry Goodricke who at Lower Norfolk sold a "ship called the Expedition of 40 tons for 20,000 pounds of tobacco."

Across the Chickahominy River from Charles City County was the county of New Kent. A Colonel Goodrich had lands within the borders in 1686, and this is all that history says of him. He was not the Colonel Goodrich of Rappahannock, who by 1686, was seven years dead. On the Chickahominy in Princess Anne County, Benjamin had an estate in 1740. Again, to avoid confusion, it must be recalled that the Benjamin of James City County succumbed to his "violent distemper" in 1710. Benjamin was like John in being a favorite given name among some of the Goodrichs. We will come upon more of them.

Prince George County was formed in 1702 by a partitioning of Charles City County. Its north border was the James River. Under date of May 8, 1709, William Byrd wrote of an arrangement by which a Mr. Bolling would be made





clerk to justices of the county on condition of paying Edward Goodrich half the profits for three years. Byrd did not like it. These are some of the entries:

"May 17, 1709: In the afternoon Mr. Munford came to tell me that the justices of Prince George County had resolved to accept Mr. Bolling for clerk on condition he would allow Mr. Goodrich half the profit and that Mr. Harrison had advised them to this because the President (of the House of Burgesses?) would not grant a commission to Mr. Goodrich according to Mr. Bolling's recommendation. Upon this I gave Mr. Munford the commission which the President had sent me and he went away with it immediately."

"May 19, 1709: I wrote to Mr. Munford not to come to any terms with Mr. Goodrich about the clerk's place of Prince George."

"May 24, 1709: Mr. Munford came and let me know the justices of Prince George had resolved to admit nobody except he would give Mr. Goodrich half the profit which showed almost unreasonable partiality and not according to the oath a justice takes to distribute justice to all men."

Mr. Byrd's moralistic attitude was hypocritical, seeing that he himself sold the post of receiver-general of royal revenues to James Roscow for five hundred pounds and that he offered a thousand pounds for his own appointment as lieutenant-governor of Virginia. Dealings in offices were carried on more or less openly throughout British America. The item sheds light on what amounted to monopolistic control of office by the governing class.

Edward Goodrich by 1714 represented Prince George County in the House of Burgesses. We find him mentioned, without date, as a member of the county bar, and also as deputy clerk "under Wm. Hamlin." He was executor of the will of Francis Mallory, probated August 11, 1719. It would seem that in this same year Edward himself died, for "Marg." Goodrich was acknowledged as executrix of his will then, and in the minutes of the General Assembly for 1720-22 he is recorded as deceased. He left five hundred



acres of land at "High Hills, Surry" to his son Edward, ten shillings each to his father, brother and sisters, and directed that certain tracts of his land be sold. Allowance had been made him in 1718 for seventy-two days attendance on the Assembly. Out of county levies was a payment of 5260 pounds of tobacco for an earlier attendance, lasting forty days, "ferrages included." The wife Margaret in 1704 owned four hundred acres of county land.

It seems likely that the brother mentioned in Edward's will was Major Charles Goodrich, a justice of the peace in the county in the early 1700's. Charles' will was probated in 1726. Two children, Sarah and Lucy, were named in it. Whether or not he was related to Captain Charles Goodrich of Charles City County, or identical with him, is not to be answered by the records. However, he probably was the Charles Goodrich who in 1687 belonged to the militia of the abutting and diminutive county of Surry. In the county Molly Goodrich was married to John Sheddon in 1772. Here, too, was proved the will of William Goodrich, 1836.

To the southwest of Surry are Sussex, Greenville and Brunswick counties, representing a struggling extension of settlement from the neighborliness on the James River. Due to political shifting and subdivision, there are instances of duplication in these counties' records. So it is thought best in the circumstances to treat the three as one.

A line of Edward Goodrichs is come upon that may belong to the Prince George and Surry families, although that can only be supposed. One of the Edwards was a church vestryman, a church warden, a militia captain and an elector for the selection of a delegate to the House of Burgesses, if delegate is the right term in the case. He appears to have been the Edward who in 1758 was listed among others for reimbursement for "supplies and provisions for the defense





of the Frontier." This was during the French and Indian War in which Virginia took an active, not to deny a provocative, part. Then there was an Edward who was spoken of as the "senior." As his will was probated in 1790, it is not likely that he was this one who helped the provisioning of the army. A daughter of this later Edward, named Sarah, married William Thorton in 1774. Under date of 1777, Benjamin Goodrich was registered as a captain of Continental forces; William Goodrich as a captain in 1781. This William may have been the individual of the name who in 1782 was paid four pounds, thirteen shillings and ninepence for property impressed for military purposes. Fanny, this William's daughter, was married to William Massey in 1796. Benjamin Goodrich married Tabitha Hicks, 1789, and was recommended, 1790, to Governor Beverly Randolph for justice of the peace. His daughter Rhoda was married to John Goodrich, presumably a cousin, in 1793, and from this we may infer that the marriage with Tabitha Hicks was a second one. A second daughter married Edmund (or Edward as once the record has it) Lanier in 1800. Other Goodrichs of the area of which record obtains were Betsy, 1787; Washington, 1799; Elizabeth, 1799; and James R., 1824.

We go back a bit in these somewhat dull details. Fellow church wardens in 1760 were Edward Goodrich and Robert Briggs. Then on the marriage of Nancy Kemp Goodrich in 1779 she is set down as a daughter of Briggs Goodrich. Briggs Goodrich himself was sworn in as an under sheriff in 1782, and in April, that year, was reimbursed for supplies to the American army. We quote from a letter from Marcus Goodrich, author and naval commander: "One has to be careful in doing research on this family because its generations numerously repeat the combinations Benjamin Briggs and Briggs Benjamin. I, myself, was scheduled for some pre-natal months, it seems, to be named Briggs Benjamin;





but my mother, herself a Goodrich, revolted at the eleventh hour in favour of a little classic fresh air: Marcus Aurelius. The Benjamin Briggs Goodrich (grandfather of Marcus) who signed the Texas Declaration of Independence was born, I think, in Eufaula, Alabama; but his family originated in Virginia."

In the history of Arizona of the 1880's, the names Ben Goodrich, lawyer, and Briggs Goodrich appear.

To be counted as Tidewater Virginia counties are Lancaster and Fairfax, the one at the mouth of the Rappahannock River, the other opposite Washington. In Lancaster records we have the marriage in 1791 of Mary Goodridge, daughter of Richard Goodrich, to Cyrus Harding of the adjoining Northumberland County. (Observe that the county clerk spelled the family name as his liking varied.) For seven days a Thomas Goodrich of the county served as a soldier of the Revolution. In Fairfax County, R. Goodrich, so recorded, was among the petitioners for setting up the town of Alexandria. Fairfax is so close to Maryland that it may be noted that Andrew Simpson, living almost immediately across the Potomac River, took for second wife Juliana Goodrich, daughter of George Goodrich. She died in 1727.

In 1790, Pasenia and Patience Goodrich were married in Louisa County, Pasenia to Valentine Merriwether, Patience to Will Chase. A family spelling its name Goodridge, at least on occasion, was living in Orange County in the first decade of the Nineteenth Century.

The gap between the Tidewater Goodrichs and those of Amherst County, our known forebears, is unfilled, and in every likelihood it never can be bridged. Nevertheless, we are convinced on the ground of tradition, the colonial migratory customs, the small interchange of people between one



colony and another, and general circumstantial evidence, that the stocks were one and the same. The painstaking "Goodrich Memorial," dealing with the family which settled in Connecticut, contains nothing tending to indicate connection with the Virginia Goodrichs. If kinship between them ever existed it was in England and probably long before the colonizing of the present United States.





## XI

As examination of records was carried on, the names of Goodrichs of the South who served in the War of the Revolution were jotted down. It cannot be said that the task was performed carefully, but rather that the list as we made it is incomplete. In some of the rebelling colonies, soldiers entered the militia commands and the Continental forces, as it suited them, as they were appealed to, or emergencies arose. Some took part in battles of their vicinity, and, as if through with a job, returned home. Such an instance was the gathering of soldiery to meet the British at King's Mountain. So it came about that enrollments were of a sketchy nature, assigning men to companies and letting it go with that. Another reason for sparse information on the subject was the blithe burning of courthouses which went on during the Civil War.

Edward Goodrich, Isle of Wight County; first lieutenant of the Fourth Virginia Regiment, Continental Line. He was the brother already mentioned of John Goodrich of Norfolk and Portsmouth who switched his sympathies and went over to the Tory side.

John Goodrich, first lieutenant of the Fourth Virginia Regiment, and later a captain of Virginia militia. As he served for a while with the above Edward Goodrich, he was possibly a relative. On the distribution of rewards he was granted four thousand acres of land.

Thomas Goodrich, Lancaster County, a private for seven days. Perhaps the brief service is not to be taken too literally. He may have been an "off and on" soldier such as were numbers in the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Benjamin Goodrich, captain of a company in 1777 and mentioned in Brunswick County records. A Benjamin E. Goodrich is listed only by name in Gwathney's "Historical Records of Virginians in the Revolution, 1775-1783," pub-





lished in 1938. Possibly identical.

William Goodrich, captain in 1781; also of Brunswick County.

These other Goodrichs belonged to North Carolina organizations, their origins probably going back to Virginia: Lewis Goodrich, Halifax District, private, enlisted July 21, 1778, dying in the following December; William Goodrich, Salisbury District; Matthew Goodrich, sergeant; Mathias Goodridge, sergeant.

Mr. John M. Payne of Amherst, Va., in a letter to the senior author, mentioned an Edward Goodrich as a revolutionary soldier. He may not have been the Edward of Isle of Wight County above. Mr. Payne gives "Illinois Papers" as the reference. The territory spoken of as "the Illinois" was claimed by Virginia. To protect it, as well as to keep British forces at Detroit diverted from the East, and further, to check the Indian raiding under British encouragement. George Rogers Clark, a Virginian, was sent into the West with a feeble force, and almost altogether on his own. His daring is very nearly uneclipsed in American history. Among the prisoners he took was Henry Hamilton, lieutenant-governor at Detroit. Hamilton was known as "the scalp-buyer," the scalps having belonged to Americans on the border. He was brought to a jail in Virginia, and there was a question for some time whether to hang him. Where Edward Goodrich comes into the account is either as a member of the Clark expedition, which would be greatly to Edward's glory, or as a guard over Hamilton during the imprisonment.

It is convenient to bring in three other Goodrichs of the South.

The first is John Goodrich. In July, 1789, he was commended to Governor Randolph as the only man who was willing to take over the office of sheriff of Ohio County, in those days of enormous size but since then whittled down to



a relative remnant of land in the Panhandle of West Virginia. In the period, sheriffs were held accountable for all taxes, collected or not. Now the populace, remembering one of the chief grievances which brought on the Revolution, was strenuously opposed to paying taxes. About the one effective way of gathering them was to approach the debtor with loaded musket. We may suppose that John was venturesome, confident he could get those taxes, or else had nothing that could be taken away from him in case he failed.

A Silas Goodrich was a member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition into the recently bought Louisiana, 1803-1806. The expedition leaders were southern, receiving their commissions from President Jefferson. The force was recruited from among Kentuckians whose state, only twelve years before, had been severed from Virginia. We may safely assume that Silas was of Virginian stock if not of Virginian birth. As he proved to be a good scimmager for food for the expedition from among the Indians this would argue an early familiarity with the aborigines, hardly to be gained elsewhere than in the South. He served the party, too, in catching fish, and was commended for it by Clark. Chronicling events at Fort Clatsop, January 15, 1806, Clark went on, "Goodrich has recovered from the Louis Veneri (lues veneris) which he contracted from an amorous contact with a Chonook damsel." The disease was probably not what Clark took it for, a physician assures us. In the final report made by Meriwether Lewis to Washington, Silas was praised for "manly firmness, patience and fortitude."

Marcus Goodrich, the author, was appealed to for information about that Goodrich who died in the epic battle of the Alamo, San Antonio, Texas, 1836. The given name, he tells us, was John Calvin. "Some records spell the middle name Colvin, but I believe this the result of bad hand writing. He came from Navasota, Texas; and was the kinsman of Benjamin Briggs Goodrich . . . who signed the Constitu-





tion of the Republic of Texas. John Calvin's name is engraved on the white marble monument in front of the Alamo, and also is on one of the bronze wall plaques within the Alamo itself. Whether he was one of the original garrison or whether he went in with the reinforcing party, I cannot tell at this writing . . . He took his middle name, perhaps, from the family name of the girl whom the aforementioned Benjamin Briggs Goodrich married."

The men slain in the Alamo numbered 188.





## XII

The cabin of logs laid horizontally, the kind the frontiersmen of later days built and politicians (if they could) were proud to boast they were born in, was not a Tidewater dwelling however easy to construct and practicable for living purposes it was. The settlers of the region set up timbers vertically at corners, with others between them widely spaced apart. Among these timbers were made frameworks in two rows and closely woven. Then these frameworks were filled with mud or clay. Once they had hardened they were stout walls. The pattern was very ancient, and was in use in Europe in advance of glass windows, shingles or tile roofs, and even chimneys. Roofs first were of marsh hay, then bark, with the shingles coming in the course of time. Shelters we would now speak of as dug-outs were put up in the first hasty construction of Jamestown. They must have been woeful affairs inasmuch as Captain John Smith spoke of them as "cabbins worse than naught," and the captain was hardened to primitive living. For roofs, turf was employed and sedge. In a few hours sticks could be laid crosswise in the shape of a square, plastered in and out with mud, and that was a chimney.

A narration of 1649 said that colonists had "lime in abundance for their houses, store of brick made, and house and chimneys built of brick." Lime was made by burning oyster shells. In making brick, the settlers were probably not fussy in the choice of clay nor carry on the burning till the heat was raised enough to be a hardship on the burners.

By the time Berkeley came overseas to take the governorship, he would have seen a structure in favor among the lesser planters "of hewn timbers, covered with clapboards, perhaps of brick in English bond, some forty-five feet by twenty, one story and a half high, with casement windows, brick chimneys, one within and the other without the end



walls, sharply rising roof covered with shingles and pierced perhaps with a dormer or two." (Wertenbaker.) Window panes were in lead, but in this same decade all other lead was confiscated by the governor for the wars against the Indians. Members of the "Tobacco Aristocracy," dominant in Virginia up to the Revolution, had great houses, some of them designed by leading English architects. They had wide-spread stables and racing horses in them. Gardens were elaborately formal. There were paintings on the walls, fine silverware for the table, costly wines in the cellars. Lavish hospitality, no doubt competitive, was maintained. It was in the nature of things that planters of the class went broke.

The log house that became the borderland commonplace in America first appeared in Virginia in the uplands. German settlers have been said to have set the style. But as Americans were in greater numbers, and there were Welsh, Irish, Swiss and Scotch besides, it is easier to believe that the cabin, as it came to be, was an adjustment to environment and a use of the best building material at hand rather than of a particular racial origin.

Settlement during the Seventeenth Century was almost wholly along the water courses, and in the case of Norfolk and Portsmouth, were outlooks on the sea. The traveler on the James River, for one tidal stream, would see mansions, flower gardens, pastures and fields, and might get the impression that the Virginian colony was populous. But if he went back of the plantations he would see forests whose paths had been made by hunters and were used by them alone, swamps, debris-jammed creeks and occasional berry tangles, remains of the true wilderness. Wharves ran out into the rivers. Here ships unloaded cargoes virtually at the doors of dwellings, took consignments of tobacco on their return. Visiting was by small boats nearly entirely. Horses were luxuries to begin with. Their mortality at sea





must have been a heavy one, and they, as well as the redemptionists of which we have written, had to be seasoned. It came about that a horseman, or say a trader with pack-animals, had difficulty in entering a plantation. The colonial legislators decided at last that the condition should be remedied, at least slightly. In 1667, they passed an act:

"Whereas the despatch of business in the country is much obstructed for want of bridleways to the several houses and plantations: It is enacted by this grand assembly and the authority thereof, that every person having a plantation shall, at the most plaine and convenient path that leads to his house make a gate in his fence for the convenience of man and horse to his house about their occasions at the discretion of the owners."

Roads were described in 1746 as "hopeless seas of mud with archipelagoes of stumps." One is left to imagine what their state was in the first century of settlement. It was absence of roads, the mud, stoniness and dust where they did exist, which led to the use of pole boats on the upper James when at last the settlers penetrated into the back country. Some of these boats were fifty feet long. Their upstream journeys were made by sheer human muscular power. That labor had to be paid for in high merchandise prices.

The formation of Rappahannock County with which Thomas Goodrich was concerned was doubtless daring at the time, 1656. Yet Tappahannock that became the port of entry of the area was only about eighty miles overland from Norfolk, where Thomas Goodrich had lived, and not much farther by boat. Distances we would think of today as trifling were fetters to the movements of colonial inhabitants. They held them to limited bounds much as if the settlers were lame and halt.

To return to the subject of private wharves a second: A ship master who is known to have tied up at them was Cap-





tain Nicholas Goodridge of the ship "Spencer," plying out of English ports.

We have made reference to the "Tobacco Aristocracy," the class that had the largest plantations, the largest mansions, and the control of offices under the governor of royal appointment. Responsible though it was for impositions upon the lesser folk it was no fault of the "Tobacco Aristocracy" that tobacco was the colonial currency. This was an expedient forced by circumstance. Gold and silver and perhaps copper tended constantly to return to England whence it came, as did other European monies. The settler who had them sent them abroad for his necessary Old World purchases. It pleased the "Tobacco Aristocracy" to call itself cavalier, meaning that it sided with the Stuarts in the quarrel with parliament and implying that it was of noble blood. Most of the claims to superior origins were mere pretense, permitting a certain amount of strutting but probably doing no harm. The true refugees of the English civil war of 1642-46 did not begin to appear in Virginia until 1649, and there was small fry among them as well as big. Having the sympathy of the governor, they got along.

Nearly all that the colony had of what we now call culture was concentrated among the greater landowners, they and the clergy. They had books and pictures, a good many of them a fair education. Even in the matter of what they read, they followed the fashions of London closely. Visits they made "home," as after a successful crop, were in the nature of pageants. Whole households would sail to England and take their black servants with them. Washington was one of the members of the class who carried over from pre-Revolutionary days to those of the Republic.

In the review of Tidewater Goodrichs, the frequent mention of military titles must have been remarked. Edward Kimber wrote in 1740: "Wherever you travel in Maryland (as well as in Virginia and Carolina) your ears are con-



stantly astonished at the number of colonels, majors and captains that you hear mentioned: in short, the whole country seems at first to you a retreat of heroes." It appears to have been a point of social behavior to strive for militia office, and of course a title once gained clung to its owner unto death. At about the time that Kimber made his observation an order for goods of British make, sent by a Williamsburg storekeeper, contained among other items, "three dozen sword canes, 6 neat Newest fashioned falling necklaces, 6 nice, white silver papered Wedding fans with pierced Ivory sticks; essence of pearl for the Teeth; and 3 doz. of thread hair nets such as gentlemen sleep in."

Virginia was toured by Robert Hunter, Jr., in the decade in which the Revolution ended. His writings made up the "Quebec to Carolina in 1785-86," published in 1943. He noted that there was excessive visiting among Virginians of the upper class. They moved about, he said, in "their phaetons, chariots, and coaches in four, with two or three footmen behind. They live in as high a style here, I believe, as in any part of the world." He remarked, also, speaking of the town of Gloucester, that "a courtship is going on in this house. I think it seems to be the principal business of Virginia." Dinners, he learned, were served at three o'clock; suppers at eight. Funeral services were from two to three weeks after burial. He described Richmond as "one of the dirtiest holes of a place I ever was in." But he had worse to say of Petersburg, as has been noted earlier in this work.

During the strictly colonial period, new-come artisans such as cabinet-makers, smiths, builders and the like announced their arrival from Europe by advertisement in the "Virginia Gazette." No Goodrich, so far as we could find, so advertised.

Known through Captain John Smith is the fact that several of the original settlers of Jamestown nearly starved themselves to death for want of tactfulness with Indians, who





had corn, and looking about them for natural resources. It required self-help to raid an oyster-bed and to catch fish, greatly plentiful, rather than a good eye for a food ship coming in. By 1635, when Goodrichs landed, the colony had learned a lot about feeding itself. Not long after, there was abundance. A journeying minister of the gospel reported that he had been fed "plenty of rich milk in large bassons and noggins, large platters covered with meat of all sorts, beef, venison, pork, and with these potatoes, turnips, cabbage and apples beyond your asking. A low bench for the table you will have covered with such provisions three times every day." (Journal of P. V. Fithian.) Aristocracy, no doubt, dined more nicely, though not with more gratification, it is probable. It is maybe of significance that the first cookbook printed in America, "The Compleat Housewife" by E. Smith, came off a Williamsburg press, 1742. Good forage grass was a scarcity in the Tidewater. Because of that, beef and milch cows were a scrawny lot. In time, the shortage was offset from the rich pastures of the uplands, and that, since herding and slavery were not well adjusted to each other, led to hot political differences within the state of Virginia and had something to do with the withdrawal of the area which took West Virginia for its name. A random agricultural note possibly worth repeating concerns the advise of Randolph Jefferson to his brother Thomas: "Tom, I'll tell you how to keep the squirrels from pillagin' the corn. They always eat the outside row. Well, don't plant any outside row."

The illness that carried off indentured servants with such rapidity was probably malaria, in that day called the "country sickness," and during the settlement of the Middle West, fever and ague. It was known from the landing at Jamestown. At the end of their first year, the settlers numbered only twenty-eight out of the original 104. The "violent distemper" sweeping Tidewater Virginia about which William





Byrd spoke in 1710 may have been a more than usually virulent form of malaria or one of the ailments we now loosely call influenza. The true cause of no disease was known. As for malaria the cause was not even wildly guessed. Remedies for almost every illness were shots in the dark, and it was a matter of luck whether they scored a hit. Most remedies included brandy, in large amounts preferably. There were some which smacked of blackest primitiveness—live toads for dropsy and white dried dung of peacocks for yellow jaundice, for example. There was small knowledge of sanitation, and, in parts, blessed little of the kind of cleanliness that moderns demand as a matter of course. After visiting a friend, Byrd noted in his diary that the beds "stank." During the survey of the Virginia North Carolina boundary line, of which he was a commissioner, he found to his distaste that in cabins wherein they asked shelter strangers had to "pig together."

The will of John Goodrich, Sr., proved 1698, in Isle of Wight County was signed "X." There is an earlier instance of "X"-ing, exact date uncertain, by which a Goodrich and his wife made over one hundred acres of land to a son. Though in the first case the signing could have been during the helplessness of the sickbed, that of the assignment of property was clearly an example of the common illiteracy. Ignorance of reading and writing was far more usual than rare in provincial England, even among gentry and into the Eighteenth Century. There were few schools in any modern sense. Statistics quoted by C. G. Coulton, "Medieval Panorama," 1938, suggest that there was small demand for schooling of quite the simplest sort. A country gentleman might have said to his son, "what is the use of such superfluous knowledge when for little price you can hire a clerk to make out your few papers?" and to his daughter, "I don't want you putting on superior airs over other women." Illiteracy was more common to the colonial



South, seemingly, than to the more industrialized New England. A Scotswoman who visited coastal North Carolina as the American Revolution was coming on was disgusted to observe that the offspring of cultured landowners had been brought up to work and to increase their acreages at the cost of conning a primer. One learned to add, subtract and multiply through everyday necessity. No pressing requirement existed as to reading and writing, and so they could be dispensed with. No better was the situation in back-country New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and in particular, Georgia.

As against this darkness, is the notation that the books of Captain Goodrich, Isle of Wight County, were appraised as worth seven hundred pounds of tobacco, and that this meant a lot of books for the times. The way in which William Byrd wrote—he did stints at reading Hebrew as a morning exercise—arouses the suspicion that colonial educated men had a pride of exclusiveness in their learning just as have scientists of our day. Byrd, for his part, seems to have gone through life with his nose in the air. The minutes of the General Assembly were set down in that fine idiomatic language we envy as peculiarly the possession of Elizabethans, and the Assembly's clerks were just as unenslaved in their spelling. By 1806, Francis Jeffrey was writing that in Virginia "there was a relish and encouragement of literature."

The London Company which undertook the settlement of Jamestown advised emigrants to provide themselves with:

A Monmouth cap	One pair of garters
Three shirts	Four pairs of shoes
One suit of canvas	Three falling bands
One suit of broadcloth	Three pairs of silkstockings
One waistcoat	One dozen pairs of points

Bands were here meant for collars. When they came down to the shoulders they were falling bands. Points were





ties of lace, ribbon or leather with which to hold garments together, and did the task of buttons. The list gives one a glimpse into the conception that Europeans had of the New World wilderness.

Men of the "tobacco aristocracy" dressed in silks, satins, brocades and other richer fabrics, and in color endeavored to match the peacock. They wore chains of gold and silver, rings set with precious stones. Some of them made a point of getting their silver shoe buckles into the pictures when their portraits were painted. It is probable that the merchants, conscious of a lower social rank, dressed more soberly. Artisans, servants and laborers were apparelled usually with extreme simplicity although such men as coachmen and butlers ran their masters a close second when it came to splendor. Homespun was for the humbler whites, not much at all for negro slaves. Men's nether garments proceeded as time went on from breeches to what we now call knickerbockers, to pantaloons and on to trousers. A long persistent headwear was the triangular hat. Attending a ball in 1774, Fithian remarked that, "the ladies were dressed gay and splendid, and when dancing, their silks and brocades rustled and trailed behind them." Imitative of men's wigs were headdressings of women that were stiffened with starch, built high and sprinkled over with powder. It can hardly be supposed that women in poorer circumstances ever had even an hour of such glorification.

Grim necessity reduced dress for both men and women who lived on the frontier almost to primitiveness. Cloth had to be spun at home, shoes made from home-tanned cowhide by journeymen shoemakers, underwear dispensed with. It is very likely that when Goodrichs settled in the mountainous regions they were in touch with men whose clothes were deerskin, whose footgear was Indian moccasins. At the edges of villages and farms were hunters who in many of their ways approximated Indians.





The impoverishment of the southern landed class by the Civil War holds a dramatic page in history, familiar to everyone. It is not so well known that the same sort of thing went on long before this conflict. George Mason of Virginia, appealing for democratic principles during the constitutional convention, declared that no matter how affluent the circumstances of the "superior classes of society" were, or however elevated their stations, "the course of a few years" distributed their posterity throughout the lowest classes of society.

In the Church of England was the established faith of Virginia, supported by the colony and defended against competition. As part of the colonial law, failure to attend church was punishable ten years after the founding of Jamestown by a fine in tobacco; going to sleep in church made the sleeper liable to the stocks. If we read Hening, "Statutes at Large," correctly, an offender could be put to death for as little as gathering up sticks on Sunday. No instances of enforcement of these laws appear to be on record, and it may be that they were merely "book" laws and acted like a warning finger. Still, it was decreed in or about 1650 that if a settler did "any servile work or any such like abuse" on the Sabbath he could be publicly whipped.

At a court held in Lower Norfolk of which Thomas Goodrich was a commissioner, one George Hawkins was fined a hundred pounds of tobacco "for taking a Jugge out of Lynhaven Church being left there for ye prisoners use . . . ." Thomas himself was indicted for going "on two long journeys when he should have been in attendance at divine services." (Bruce, "Institutional History of Virginia," 1910). At a court holden in Isle of Wight County, December 10, 1694, John Goodrich sitting as one of the justices, John Williams was fined two hundred pounds of tobacco for following the Quaker services.

The easy-going religious customs of Virginia were marks



of post-Revolutionary times in particular. They may be illustrated by quotation from John Davis, "Travels of Four Years and a Half in the United States of America during 1798, 1799, 1800, 1801." Says Davis, speaking possibly of such places in general, "the churchyard resembles rather a race course than a sepulchral ground. The ladies come to it in carriages, and the men after dismounting from their horses make them fast to trees . . . I was stunned with the rattling of carriage-wheels, the cracking of whips, and the vociferation of the gentlemen to the negroes who accompanied them."

The ferment against the established church was working in the Piedmont in the 1780's. The Rev. William Robinson was among the first leaders of the Presbyterianism of the region. He was followed by a student described as "of his acquaintance," Samuel Davies. In two months, Davies rode five hundred miles and preached forty sermons. "My heart at times," he said, "is set upon nothing more than to snatch the brands out of the burning . . . and hence it is I consume my life in such great fatigues." He went on to Princeton College as president, and died in less than two years. The Tidewater clung much more tightly to the state religion. In Caroline County, tucked behind Essex County on the Rapahannock, James Goodrich was imprisoned in 1771, together with two other preachers, for voicing the Baptist creed "in defiance of the colonial ecclesiastical law."

"The Presbyterian invasion of the Piedmont was to be followed by the more formidable invasion of the Baptists and Methodists" (Werthenbaker.)

The point at which Goodrichs went over into dissenting sects is, of course, unknown. Two or three reasons for the veering seem to us plain enough. Often a non-conformist church has been first in the field in a newly settled area, and, as it were, gathered the first harvest. Marriage is a powerful influence in such matters, a man tending to go over





to the bride's persausion and turning his back on that of his parents. The Piedmont settlers were poor, ignoring the ownership of land which time and labor were required to make valuable. It is the poor who respond most readily to evangelical movements. Furthermore, since the uplands to which the Goodrichs came were cut off from the Tidewater by economic differences it fell naturally to the higher country to accent the differences religiously.

Until 1700—it has been written—Tidewater, Virginia was under threat of Indian raids. It was hardly more than twenty years earlier that Nathaniel Bacon defied the colonial governor and went out against the pillagers. The menace hung over the Piedmont for a hundred years longer. So a high courage was demanded of hunters and traders to venture for several decades as far as the mountains, and still more of it was needed of the settlers when at last they made the invasion. It was the migration of homeseekers which prompted the Virginian government to undertake surveys toward the Ohio. This was warranted in that government's view, for one thing, by the claims the French made to almost everything in the western drainage. Out of its activity developed the high abilities of George Washington.

Probably the most distinctive feature of the Piedmont in its earliest years was its isolation. It was joined with the Tidewater then only by the roughest roads, a better name for which is trails. As concerns Amherst County and its neighbors the connection was mostly by means of the pole-boating on the upper James River. The Piedmont inhabitants developed a stout individuality, to some extent idiosyncrasies. The coonskin cap and fringed buckskin jacket would appear to have been of their contriving. They were the ones who so lengthened out the rifle that, so the saying went, a squirrel could be knocked down with it to the saving of powder and lead. Their hospitality rivaled that of





the Tidewater aristocrats so far as it could go. Virginians are a bit fond of the fact that their ancestors said "bee candle" for wax candle, and in the sense of riddance, spoke of "gittin' shet" of something, fever and ague or a poor horse for example. In every probability the phrases originated in the Piedmont.

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